





## THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

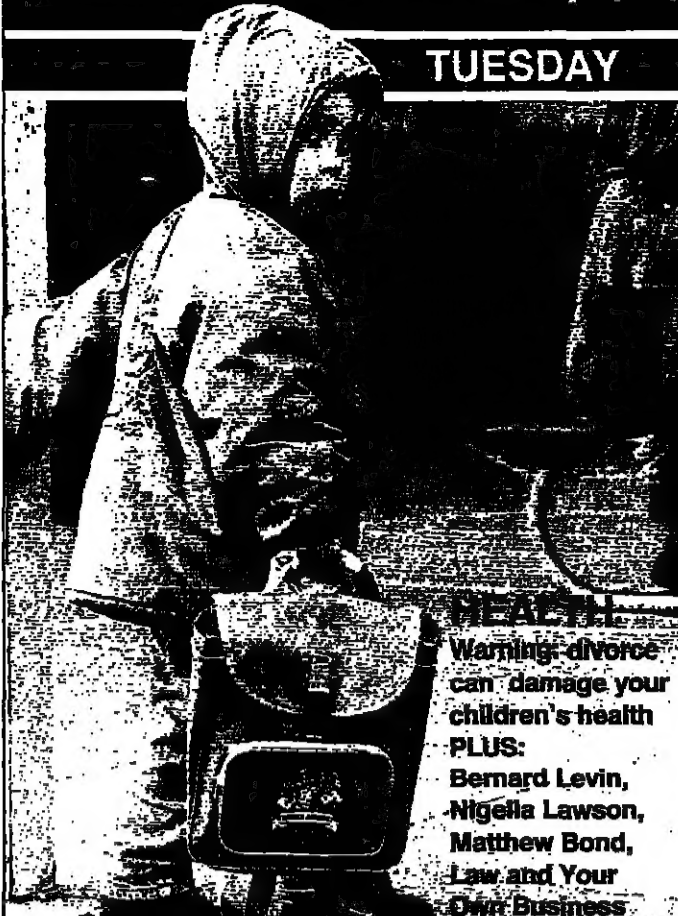
TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

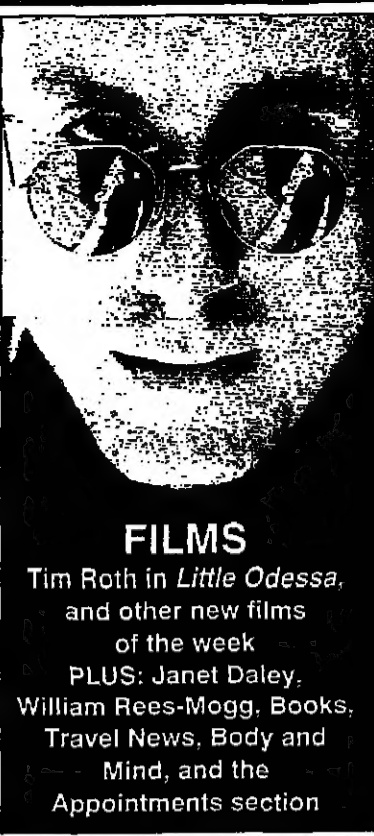
FRIDAY

SATURDAY



**HEALTH**  
Warning: divorce can damage your children's health  
**PLUS:** Bernard Levin, Nigella Lawson, Matthew Bond, Law and Your Own Business

**FASHION**  
Head to toe guide to dressing up this summer  
**PLUS:** Simon Jenkins, Alan Coren, Media and Property pages



**FILMS**  
Tim Roth in *Little Odessa*, and other new films of the week  
**PLUS:** Janet Daley, William Rees-Mogg, Books, Travel News, Body and Mind, and the Appointments section

**POP**  
Caitlin Moran on modern music and musicians  
**PLUS:** the Valerie Grove interview, Bernard Levin, Philip Howard, Clement Freud and Infotech



**VE DAY**  
William Rees-Mogg on the end of the war in 1945  
**PLUS:** the 7-day English Heritage properties, CAR 95: summer driving, and more

THE TIMES AT 20p - YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS IT

## Universities fail to close class gap

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE rapid expansion of higher education over the past decade has made little impact on the middle classes' domination of university places, according to a report published today.

Two thirds of students at the old universities and more than half of those at former polytechnics still come from the top two social classes, according to research by the Association of University Teachers. The mix has changed little since 1987.

During the five years analysed by the union in *Higher Education: preparing for the 21st century*, the number of students almost doubled. But the new opportunities for study

were not taken up by sections of the population without a tradition of higher education. In the more prestigious old universities in 1992, almost 67 per cent of students came from the top two social classes, which account for a quarter of the population, compared with 69 per cent in 1987.

Equivalent figures were not available for the polytechnics, where vocational courses attracted a higher proportion of working class students. But in 1992, when they had become new universities, the proportion of students from the top two social classes was more than 55 per cent.

Education, page 37

## Tory leadership tries to quell poll panic on back benches

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

MICHAEL HESELTINE yesterday scorned suggestions that John Major should submit himself to an early leadership election in the aftermath of this week's expected Conservative rout in the council elections. Such a course would be stupid for the Prime Minister and for the Conservative Party, Mr Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, declared.

Tory party chiefs are braced for an outbreak of panic among Conservative MPs if poll results show an expected loss of up to 1,500 seats and prompt them to ponder their own chances of holding on to constituencies at the General Election. An attempt to gauge the level of support for a challenge is to be launched by

Mr Major's enemies in the days after the local elections. If they secure a sufficient number of backers they are expected to ask for the contest to be brought forward from November.

Some ministers and MPs believe that Mr Major should take the challenge head-on and agree to a contest both to prevent speculation persisting for another six months and to kill the issue for good. However, it emerged yesterday that both Mr Major, and Sir Marcus Fox, chairman of the 1922 Committee, who would be in charge of any election, would oppose a move that some of Mr Major's supporters believe would be too great a gamble. Mr Heseltine would be the favourite to benefit if a

leadership contest showed that the parliamentary party had lost faith in the Prime Minister.

However, Mr Heseltine dismissed the idea. Interviewed on the *The World This Week* on BBC Radio, he said: "All it would do is produce a media field day. It would be wonderful for you guys. We think that by the time we get to the next election people will recognise the real difference between John Major and Tony Blair, and that is that John Major has actually been tested in the storm of politics."

Labour expect to make big gains on Thursday. Conservative strategists say it is inevitable that the leadership



Heseltine: backing Major

question will arise again, even though the pressure on Mr Major appears to have eased in recent weeks. A succession of Cabinet heavyweights is

likely to take to the airwaves over the weekend to demand loyalty to Mr Major. He is planning a combative response similar to that after last year's European election losses.

A loyalist MP said yesterday: "It is very jittery again. On Friday morning Tory MPs will not be thinking about whether we can win the next election. Frankly that looks beyond us at the moment. But they will be looking at their own seats and whether they can survive. They will undoubtedly wonder yet again whether a change would make any difference."

Jeremy Hanley, the Conservative chairman, tried to dismiss talk of a challenge. "There's no need, I mean I don't know anybody who wants it," he said.

## Former MP denies cover-up for BA

British Airways and Sir Robert McCrindle, a former Tory MP, yesterday denied allegations that he had been paid to prevent damaging criticisms of the airline being made in parliament. The television programme *World in Action* will claim tonight that Sir Robert was taken on by a public relations consultancy which was paid thousands of pounds to meet his fees. BA says a £5,000 payment was made "in recompense" for Sir Robert losing his job as adviser to British Caledonian after BA took it over.

## River deaths

Two people died when two pleasure boats collided on the Waveney about ten miles inland from Great Yarmouth yesterday. Two others pulled from the river were suffering from hypothermia. The boats are thought to have been hired locally.

## Chemical alert

More than 1,500 residents were evacuated from their homes after a chemical alert at Huyton in Liverpool on Saturday evening when a nitrogen tank at a heating plant shifted on its foundations. The area was made safe within a few hours.

## Body in sea

An air-sea rescue search for the pilot of a light aircraft, last heard of reporting engine trouble over the sea, was called off yesterday after a body was found in the water. The plane last radio contact 15 miles east of Clacton, Essex, on Saturday.

## Holocaust plea

A national Holocaust museum should be set up to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the *Shoah*, the Chief Rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks, told people attending a Holocaust Day ceremony in Hyde Park yesterday.

VE-Day facsimile, page 10

## 14 big winners

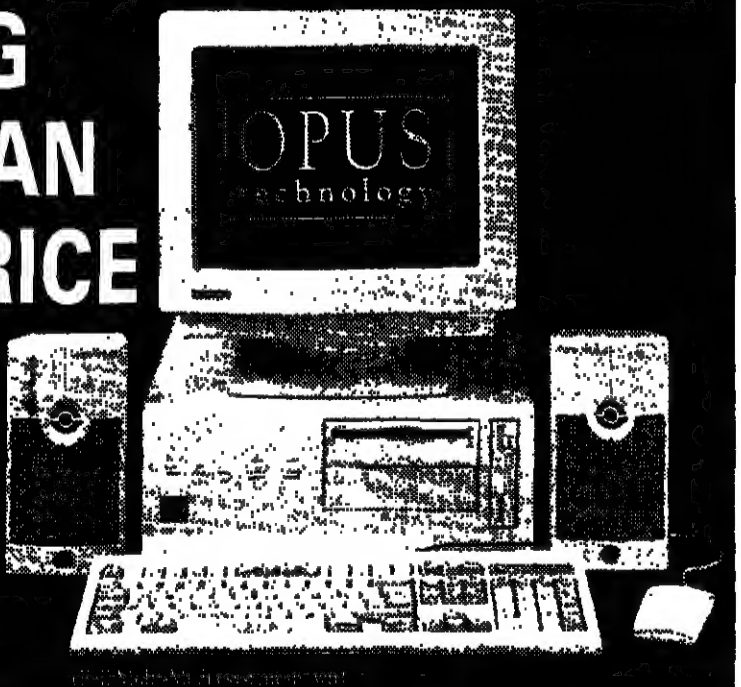
Last week's rollover National Lottery may have created 14 new millionaires. Each winning ticket gets a £1,355,975 share from the £18,983,650 jackpot, said Camelot, the organiser. The prize money totalled £42 million.

Winning numbers, page 22

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## NHS under intolerable strain, says Beckett

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

THE rapid pace of hospital and bed closures is putting intolerable strain on the NHS, Labour said yesterday. At least 245 hospitals have been shut since 1990 and almost 36,000 beds lost in the three years 1990-91 to 1993-94, according to statistics which Labour said the Government had refused to provide.

The figures, which were "unearthed by the House of Commons library over five months", show that one in seven of all hospital beds was closed in the three years. The biggest reduction, of 24 per cent, was in beds for the mentally ill, reflecting the policy of community care.

Geriatric beds fell 18 per cent as the NHS sought to divest itself of long-term care, leaving patients to find places in nursing homes. The reduction in acute hospital beds was 6 per cent. However, the number of patients treated has risen as the average length of hospital stay has fallen.

Margaret Beckett, Shadow Health Secretary, said: "When waiting lists are at record levels, bed cuts and hospital closures have brought the NHS to breaking point in many areas." She called for a reassessment of the pace and scale of closures.

## US banks charge a high price for personal touch

BY JAMES BONE AND JOE JOSEPH

BRITISH banks are more bewildered than bewitched by an American idea for chastising customers who insist on face-to-face contact with bank tellers even though there may be a perfectly good cash machine outside: from now on these awkward customers will be fined for branch visits until they learn a lesson.

First to abandon the softly-softly approach of nudging account holders towards electronic banking is First National Bank of Chicago. America's tenth-largest bank has decided to administer the financial equivalent of electric shock therapy to account-holders by charging \$3 (£1.86) for a visit to a clerk.

"This is the wave of the future," Leo Mullin, president of the bank's holding company, said. The aim is to save money. Face-to-face branch visits cost a bank up to 12 times as much as a cash machine transaction, which can itself be four times as expensive as using a telephone banking system.

First National's customers, distressed at being reconditioned like laboratory rats, are wondering if the bank robbers have got on the wrong side of the counter. Consumer groups are warning of a revolt when the scheme is introduced in the bank's 80 branches in

Chicago. Pauline Hedges, of the British Bankers' Association, found the idea audacious. "It's typically American. We are still in the business of providing what our customers want. It is the customers in Britain who are demanding more cash machines and telephone banking services, but there will always be the cuddly clerk behind the counter. I can't see British banks doing away with face-to-face encounters and I can't see them charging for them."

At National Westminster Bank a spokeswoman said: "I guess it's an interesting development, but penalising customers is not something we are planning as far as I know." First National's levy is a more brazen version of penalties already imposed by some American rivals. Bank of America and the Wells Fargo bank offer discounts to customers who agree to use cash machines or telephone banking systems rather than disturb their tellers. These customers pay \$2 each time they transgress and visit a bank clerk.

Under the Chicago bank's scheme, all customers could have six free visits a month to a teller, but only clients with more than \$2,500 (£1,550) in their account would enjoy unlimited human contact.

## Subsidy report shock for rail sell-off

Continued from page 1  
gation of the finances of privatisation yet carried out and, if published in its draft form, could prove highly damaging to the Government.

The committee's investigation after two of its advisers said that lack of funds could lead to the closure of nearly half of the 9,000-mile British Rail passenger network. The 11 MPs on the committee have since questioned virtually every key railway figure during the course of its inquiry, including Sir Bob Reid, the

former BR chairman, Bob Horton, chairman of Rail-track, Roger Salmon, the rail franchise director, and John Swift, the rail regulator.

The committee, chaired by Paul Channon, the former Transport Secretary, will meet to consider the draft report on May 10. If members agree to its wording it will be published a few weeks later.

The committee has a reputation for producing unanimous reports, and Mr Channon, who is said to be deeply sceptical of the way privatisation has been struc-

tured, will be keen to preserve its cross-party consensus if possible.

The six Tory members are said to have been deeply disturbed by some of the expert evidence they heard during the inquiry, and some fear that privatisation could up as an embarrassing shambles.

The political sensitivity of privatisation, however, means that the Tories, who include Peter Bottomley, another former Transport Minister, may come under intense pressure from party whips to water

down the conclusions of the report.

This will hold up publication for weeks or even months while Labour and Tory MPs dispute the wording of the report line by line. It has been deliberately phrased, however, so that direct criticisms of the Government are kept to a minimum.

The conclusions nevertheless raise fundamental concerns about whether rail privatisation can work, and also put the direct costs of breaking up and selling off the network at about £200 million.

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## Legal chiefs at loggerheads

## Taylor and Mackay clash over secrecy of juries

By FRANCES GIBBS  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

TWO of the country's leading judicial figures are at loggerheads over proposals to bring the secret workings of the jury room into the open.

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gostforth, is fiercely opposed to a change in the law favoured by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, which could enable research to be conducted into how juries reach their verdicts.

Lord Mackay has the backing of the Serious Fraud Office (SFO), which wants to find out how computer technology could simplify the task of jurors in complex fraud trials. Lord Taylor opposes any such research into the cornerstone of the criminal justice system as dangerous and likely to lead to criminals seeking to overturn their convictions on the basis of disclosures about jurors' thinking.

Discussions in the jury room are considered to be sacrosanct. Research is prohibited under the Contempt of Court Act 1981 although the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice in 1993 recommended a change in the law.

In an interview with *The Times*, Lord Mackay said: "I personally would be in favour of allowing responsible research into what happens. We will have to wait to see if we can develop an acceptable



Lord Mackay, left, favours responsible research. Lord Taylor: no interference with jury secrecy

system and then the necessary legislation."

Lord Mackay added: "I believe it would be possible to do something consistent with the interests of justice and still enable us to get more help about the sort of information juries require."

However the Lord Chief Justice, in a statement to *The Times*, warned against any such move. "The jury is the foundation of our common law and nothing must be allowed to interfere with the confidentiality of its deliberations. I would view with serious concern any proposal which might allow verdicts to be challenged on grounds of what is subsequently alleged to have occurred in the jury room." He added that recent

cases had shown that convicted criminals had already considered such tactics in mounting appeals. In one case last October, Stephen Young successfully won a retrial after being convicted by a jury at Hove Crown Court of two murders, because it came to light that four of the jurors who were wavering about the verdict had used an Ouija board in an attempt to consult one of his victims.

Although that was done in a hotel room rather than the jury room itself, it is the kind of appeal that Lord Taylor fears could become commonplace if jurors are found not to have understood evidence. Young was subsequently reconvicted at a second trial.

The Royal Commission on

Criminal Justice conducted general research into how jurors understood and remembered evidence, their opinion of the judge's performance and counsel, and their experience of jury service. It found "there was a minority of cases where jurors and even whole juries were said to be confused" and that "this should be the matter for further research".

The SFO recently conducted the first tentative experiment in jury research by giving jurors in a long fraud trial a questionnaire on how helpful they had found the use of computer technology. The case, in which Roy Wharton, chairman of Castlegate Securities, was jailed for five years over a £43 million mortgage fraud, involved unprecedented use of computer graphics and evidence. But the findings of the questionnaire could not be published.

In a letter to *The Times* George Staple, director of the SFO, said publication would have been contempt of court. He had "consistently" supported the lifting of the ban as recommended by the Royal Commission, and he said he was "hopeful before long it might be possible to make progress on this".

In its report the Royal Commission favoured change in the law so "that informed debate can take place rather than argument based only on surmise and anecdote".



Angela Donohoe, who died in a car crash. The driver fled from the scene

## Pregnant woman

POLICE are hunting the former boyfriend of a pregnant woman who was killed with her unborn child when a car in which she was a passenger crashed into a wall.

The driver fled from the scene after the crash in Guiseley, Leeds. The family of Angela Donohoe, 18, who was seven months pregnant, believe she may have been picked up by Andrew Whitehead, against whom she had taken out two injunctions to stop him from pestering her.

The court action was taken to prevent Mr Whitehead, 21, from pestering her after the recent breakdown of their relationship. A second passenger in the back seat was injured in the crash early on Saturday. The man, Jason Malloy, was taken to Leeds General Hospital.

Miss Donohoe, a hotel maid, had recently separated from Mr Whitehead, the father of her child, and took legal action when he continued to try to see her.

She went to a nightclub on Friday and Mr Whitehead was seen outside. Miss Donohoe's family said she had left the nightclub alone to walk the half-mile home.

Terry Donohoe, 28, her brother, said: "Angela had lived with Andrew but she had enough of his violence. She returned home before Christmas. He was very, very possessive and he was putting her through hell."

## I feel like a fool, Fry confesses on the Internet

By RICHARD DUCE

STEPHEN FRY has admitted that he feels a fool after his vanishing act from the London stage in February.

The confession was apparently made to two brothers in Wales who found themselves communicating with the comic actor on the Internet, the international computer network. Paul and Craig Hooper, from Barry, South Glamorgan, say they have "spoken" with Fry several times since he has been in California.

When they asked him about his disappearance from the play *Cellmates*, he replied: "I feel like a fool, but I just had to get away. I'll be back in a week or two, talk between my legs. I just felt the need to be away and was rather fraught about my inadequacy in the play I had opened in."

"I suppose it was no more than a boring old mid-life crisis. However much one tells oneself that everything's dandy, those old black moods still come flying. I don't want to turn into a happy-clappy therapy convert, but I don't want to be miserable either."

Craig Hooper, 23, said: "We link up with people all over the world but we were amazed to get Stephen Fry on the other end. I couldn't let the opportunity go by without

talking to him about his feelings. He said he has been using the Internet a lot while he had been in California.

"He calls it his net friendship and says he has been getting a lot of support from other kind strangers who he has linked up with."

Fry, 37, disappeared in February soon after *Cellmates* opened to bad reviews. He fled to Belgium and then on to France. He returned for treatment at a London clinic before going to California, where he is still in hiding.

The brothers say they have "spoken" to Fry about half a dozen times. Paul Hooper, 20, said: "Stephen and others like us just go on the Internet if we feel like a chat. We talk about films and all sorts of things not just about his troubles. He is a really nice man."

The brothers say they have Fry's personal E-mail address, the number on which to send him computer messages, but have promised to keep it a secret.

Fry's enthusiasm for the Internet is well known. In an interview before he vanished he said his Macintosh computer was the "current love of his life". He is a particular fan of the "Newsgroups" where users debate and comment with each other.

## Lawyers plan rerun of Clegg shooting

By NICHOLAS WATT

SUPPORTERS of Lee Clegg, the paramilitary leader of the murder of a passenger in a joyrider's car, are planning this week to reconstruct the events that led to the fatal shooting in West Belfast.

Clegg's legal team is hoping to prove that he could not have fired the shot that killed Karen Reilly on the nationalist Glen Road in September 1990.

Nationalists condemned the reconstruction, which is due to take place on the Glen Road. Joe Hendron, the SDLP MP for West Belfast, said: "It is sick and deeply offensive. It will cause very deep hurt to the families of the victims, who live close to the scene."

Clegg, a member of 3 Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, was convicted at Belfast Crown Court in 1993 of the murder of Reilly, 18, from West Belfast. She died when he fired four bullets at a stolen Vauxhall Astra as it sped through a checkpoint. Martin Peake, 17, the driver, was also killed.

Clegg's supporters hope to show that there was not enough time for him to have fired a fourth shot with precision. Experts will carry out forensic tests on the SA80 rifle used by him and his colleagues and on a car similar to the Astra driven by Peake.

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## Material girl desperately seeking success on film

From GILES WHITTELL  
IN LOS ANGELES

MADONNA CICCONI, the singer and poseuse best known by her first name, is anxious to heat up her lukewarm acting career and to this end has changed agents for the second time in barely a month.

Madonna, whose recent films have been flops, left the William Morris Agency on Wednesday and signed up with a team of no fewer than seven top executives at International Creative Management. She has now been represented by the heads of each of Hollywood's top three talent agencies within the space of six weeks.

The industry that lives off the multimillion-dollar deals it makes for America's movie stars is small, inbred and ferociously competitive. Madonna stunned it last month by leaving its biggest player, the Creative Artists' Agency, after ten years.

Arnold Rifkin, chief executive of William Morris, had persuaded her in an intense three-hour meeting that he would be able to revive her flagging film career. Instead, according to Thursday's *Dail-*



Madonna in London

*Variety*, he failed to kindle any "chemistry" with his new charge, who began manoeuvring to replace him within days of their meeting. Unnamed sources also told the trade paper that Mr Rifkin had irritated Madonna by failing to negotiate a royalty for her on the album intended to accompany her next film, *Evita*.

Madonna was cautiously favourable reviews for *Desperately Seeking Susan* in 1985, and for her role opposite Warren Beatty in *Dick Tracy* five years later. But her

casting as a 1930s missionary in her second film, *Shanghai Surprise* (1986), was a good deal less apt. Despite featuring Sean Penn, with whom she was then involved, as her costar, the film bombed in cinemas.

More recently, *Body of Evidence* failed at the American box office despite, or perhaps because of, sexually explicit scenes.

Re-establishing her acting credentials in mainstream America may not be easy. Madonna lost millions of fans in a single appearance on David Letterman's late-night chat show last year by uttering 13 expletives, blowing cigar smoke in her host's face and advocating urine as a cure for athlete's foot. It was seen as the start of a slide in her global popularity.

The struggling actress's determination to succeed in film appears to go against commercial logic. Although her latest series of London concerts passed off with none of the mobbing by fans that accompanied earlier ones, Madonna has not lost her knack of selling records. Her latest album, *Bedtime Stories*, has sold more than three million copies.



# Duke warns of dangers from rising population

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Duke of Edinburgh issued an apocalyptic warning yesterday that unless mankind addressed the problem of its ever-increasing population the world could explode like a balloon.

The Duke, who was addressing a world summit on religion and conservation, gave warning that the world was in a critical state.

Speaking at Windsor Castle, he said: "The only significant factor that coincides with the deterioration of the planet's health over the last century is the dramatic increase in the world's human population. The key issue for the conservation of our natural environment is to find ways of protecting it from the consequences of the human population explosion."

At the meeting, where nine religious leaders will draw up a blueprint for what each faith can do to tackle global environmental problems, he said: "I cannot emphasise too strongly that the world is in a critical state and, whatever it may look like from the comfort of an apparently secure urban perspective, time for the natural environment is running out, and it is running out fast."

"If you are in the process of blowing up a balloon there is nothing to warn you that it is about to burst. We are stretching the Earth's systems like a small child blowing up a balloon. If it goes on blowing, the crucial question is, when is it going to burst?"

The Duke said it was not for him to suggest how religious faiths should respond to concern about the state of the

planet, but he could propose certain basic principles. He called for humans to "interfere" to regulate imbalances created by humanity itself.

The Duke did not refer to last year's Cairo population conference, which ended with agreement on urgent steps to educate women, improve access to family planning and stabilise the world's burgeoning population. The Vatican, which opposes artificial contraception, accused the conference action plan of promoting extra-marital sex, abortion and homosexuality.

The Duke said: "Make no mistake, the health of our planet and the number and diversity of its living species are under very serious threat. The natural systems of the atmosphere around the planet, and its rivers, lakes and oceans, are being polluted by human and toxic effluents to an alarming extent."

The religious leaders are reviewing developments since the 1986 interfaith event at Assisi, when for the first time five of the world's leading religions issued declarations setting out their commitment to conservation. The summit is expected to end with the launch of an international research institute on religion and conservation, and a foundation to fund religious activity on conservation.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, will today chair the first session of a two-day private conference at the summit, which ends on Wednesday at Westminster Abbey. Other delegates include the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan and Rabbi Arthur Hershberg of the World Jewish Congress.

The summit, sponsored by the World Wide Fund for Nature, the Pilkington Trust and MOA, a Japanese cultural foundation, was called at the suggestion of the Duke, who is International President of WWF. Calling for stricter control of poaching and trade in endangered species, he said: "If this is not done, there is a serious risk that the present high rate at which species are becoming extinct will reach dangerous proportions."

He said the extinction of a single species of wild plant or animal life was "far more significant" than the death of a number of individuals of a domestic or wild species not threatened with extinction.

Photograph, page 1



Indomitable as ever, Winston and Clementine Churchill, in the grounds of Chartwell, Kent, sit out the furore over the sale of his papers

## I may receive none of £12.5m, says Churchill grandson

WINSTON CHURCHILL, MP, said last night that he might not get a penny from the £12.5 million sale of his grandfather's papers.

The Tory MP for Daventry told the Press Association that he agreed with his 82-year-old cousin Peregrine Churchill, one of the two trustees of the Churchill archives, who had said: "The trustees have 100 per cent

discretion as to what to do with this money. I keep all the options open. We may cut him off without a penny."

Mr Churchill would not comment on whether he would be making a claim on the trust for any amount. "There are other beneficiaries — how it is distributed is entirely within the discretion of the trust."

The trustees acting for the Churchill

family has already received a first instalment of £2.5 million.

Earlier Chris Smith, Labour's National Heritage spokesman, said the rules on ownership of ministerial documents should be tightened. Inadequate guidelines on state documents had let the Churchill family intimidate the Government. In a letter to the Prime Minister, Mr Smith said the

rules should be clarified. "All papers relating to someone's period in office which deal with matters of State must be the property of the nation. A departing prime minister could legitimately borrow papers to write memoirs, but they should be in the ownership of the nation."

William Rees-Mogg, page 16

## BT tops table of advert spenders

INTENSE competition in the terrestrial and mobile telephone industry saw British Telecom spend a record £44 million on advertising last year — more than any other company in Britain.

The "It's Good to Talk" television advertisements, starring Bob Hoskins, cost BT £25 million while Phoneline and other business campaigns cost £19 million. Mercury One-2-One Phones spent £8 million while Hutchison Orange spent £12.5 million. Cellnet £9 million and Nokia £3.3 million, according to a survey of 300 companies in Campaign magazine.

Hoskins, whose contract with BT has been extended to April next year, made 16 commercials for BT last year for a reported fee of £500,000. Dominic Mills, editor of Campaign, said: "BT have faced a tremendous amount of competition in the past year, not only in the terrestrial market but also in the booming mobile

### BIG SPENDERS

The top ten of 300 spending brands, showing the brands that received most advertising support in 1994

	£m
1 BT (cell stimulation)	44.31
2 McDonald's	31.28
3 Tesco (exc petrol)	30.25
4 Curry's	27.15
5 Boots	26.50
6 Sainsbury's	25.88
7 Comet	24.11
8 Sainsbury's (exc petrol)	22.94
9 B&Q	21.12
10 MFI	20.81

sector, forcing BT to drastically increase the amount it spent on advertising."

BT said: "We faced a very large amount of competition and this is what the Hoskins campaign was all about. We are in a very competitive market now and the whole idea is to widen that market by persuading people to use the phone more often."

## MoD sale of houses questioned

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON

THE Ministry of Defence is refusing to disclose how much it received for nearly 3,000 houses sold in the past two years, amid fears that speculators are making a killing on developing surplus government property.

The MoD said the amount received was "commercial and in confidence" and there was no monitoring of prices at which houses were subsequently sold. Since 1993 the ministry has sold 2,828 houses, some to individuals and housing associations but most to property developers.

Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, has told Derek Fatchett, a Labour defence spokesman, that he is not prepared to disclose the prices of any properties.

Mr Fatchett has written to the Prime Minister, who replied that the proceeds "represent the best possible return for the taxpayer."

## Activists occupy disused oil rig

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

GREENPEACE activists occupied a North Sea oil rig 120 miles north east of Shetland yesterday, vowing to prevent the Government from allowing it to be dumped at sea.

The Brent Spar, a disused oil storage platform weighing 14,500 tons and belonging to Shell, was used to store oil from the Brent Field. Pipelines now carry the oil ashore and the platform has been unoccupied since 1991.

Tim Eggar, the Energy Minister, gave approval in February for the Brent Spar to be towed to deep water in the north east Atlantic and dumped. Greenpeace says that the platform contains toxic materials and that the Government originally promised that redundant North Sea facilities would be removed, not dumped.

Greenpeace said the occupiers would be prepared to stay on board "until September, if

necessary". The assault was made by four climbers using ropes, winches and steel ladders, from the Greenpeace ship *Moby Dick*. A Shell supply vessel observed the occupation and, according to Greenpeace, harrassed the *Moby Dick* and the inflatable used by the assault group.

Greenpeace says that Shell's own figures show that the Brent Spar contains 100 tons of hazardous materials including chemicals, waste oil, heavy metals and radioactive materials brought up with the oil and left as scale. They say that these would cause lasting damage to sea life while the hulk of the platform itself would be a hazard to fishermen and other sea users.

Shell UK Exploration and Production confirmed that the activists were on the platform. "The situation is being monitored and police have been notified," the company said.

## FBI 'must not be model for Europol'

The FBI should not be the model for any future European police force, according to a Lords committee. The European Police Office, or Europol, should have no powers of arrest and prosecution and must limit its role to the exchange of information between European forces, a report of the Select Committee on the European Communities says.

It warns of the dangers Europol could pose for individual liberties and calls for greater public accountability and rigorous controls. European heads of government, meeting this month in Cannes, southern France, will publish a convention setting up Europol.

## Asthma survey highlights risk

Millions of workers are at risk of contracting asthma because their employers do nothing to protect them, a survey by the National Asthma Campaign suggests.

Four fifths of small firms contacted in a sample had taken no steps to reduce the risks, even though they used materials known to sensitise people to asthma. Nearly three fifths did not know of occupational asthma, of the rest, fewer than half had tried to cut the risk.

## Viscount Thurso dies aged 72

Viscount Thurso, Lord Lieutenant of Caithness and a close friend of the Queen Mother, died aged 72 at his home in Thurso on Saturday afternoon after being confined to his bed for ten days with an infection.

Robin Sinclair, a Liberal peer, became the second Lord Thurso in 1970, succeeding his father Archibald Sinclair, who was a member of the War Cabinet. His heir, John Sinclair, was flying home from France yesterday.

## Monks chart their success

Benedictine monks at Ampleforth Abbey in North Yorkshire today present their offering to the growing market for religious music.

They have joined Classic FM to produce a CD of Gregorian chants, *Vision Of Peace — The Way of the Monk*. The plainsong chants chart the stages in the life of a Benedictine from his first day to the taking of vows, and are accompanied by a commentary from Father Justin Price, Prior of Ampleforth.

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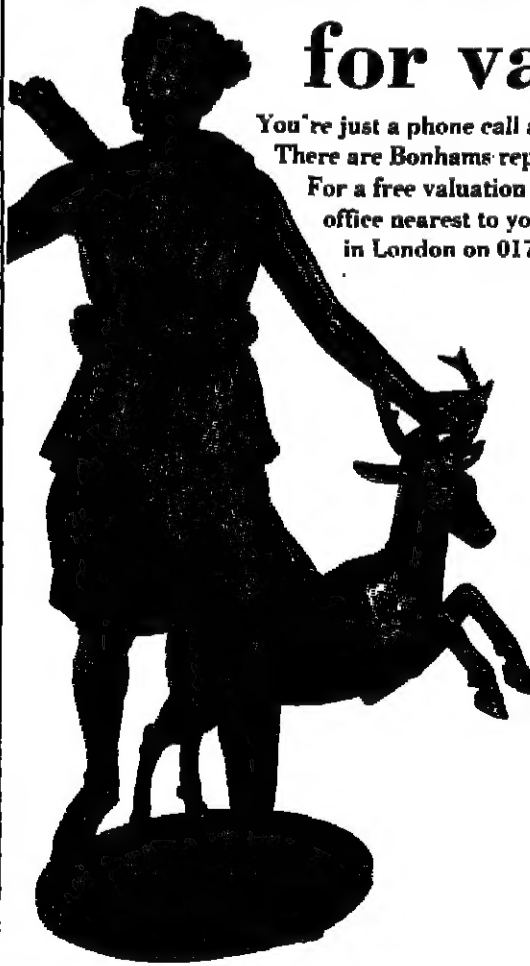
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## Clause 4 debate 'illustrates a change in the culture of party's politics'

## We've shown we can win trust, says Blair

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND PHILIP BASSETT

LABOUR should never ignore its history but neither should it become a prisoner of it, John Prescott, the deputy leader, declared on Saturday shortly before he and Tony Blair won their six-month battle to scrap the old Clause Four.

Its replacement, committing Labour to a mixed economy with a thriving private sector and high-quality public services, and calling for power, wealth and opportunity to be "in the hands of the many, not the few" was carried by 65.23 per cent of the vote to 34.77 per cent. There was an overwhelming 90 per cent support among the constituency parties, which had initially seemed cool about the change.

Afterwards Mr Blair, in an emotional vote of thanks, told delegates: "If sometimes I

seem a little over hasty and over urgent it is for one reason and for one reason only — I cannot stand these people, these Tories, being in government over our country. The people of Britain do not deserve this Government. They deserve something better, and today we have shown we can win their trust to provide something better."

In his speech opening the debate Mr Blair had covered traditional Tory territory with a plea for "one nation". He declared: "Today a new Labour Party is being born. Our task now is nothing less than the rebirth of our nation."

He had not come into the Labour Party to join a pressure group. "I didn't become leader of this party to lead a protest movement. Power

without principle is barren. But principle without power is futile. This is a party of government or it is nothing and I will lead it as a party of government."

Mr Blair won the vote without the backing of two of Labour's largest affiliate unions, the transport workers and Unison. But the debate illustrated what he called a change in the culture of the politics of the Labour party.

Arthur Scargill, for so long the darling of Labour conferences, was hissed and slow-handclapped when he tried to argue that the conference did not have the legal right to change the constitution. Rodney Bickerstaffe, associate general secretary of Unison, was coolly received when he said that John Smith, the



Prescott: turning point

former Labour leader, would have won the next election without changing its commitment to common ownership.

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, said that while it was no secret his union would have written the new clause

differently "we are not prepared to throw away the political advantage that Labour has gained by self-indulgent gestures which could ruin the election chances of this party".

Afterwards, the defeated union leaders said they would fully accept the outcome. Bill Morris, general secretary of the TGWU, said: "It's certainly the end of the matter as far as Clause Four is concerned. We now need to move on to develop the policy for the real world."

Mr Bickerstaffe said the decision was as clear as any Labour party conference decision. "It's the constitution of my party now, and that's where we are."

Unions cut back, page 1  
Leading article, page 17  
Graham Serjeant, page 41

## Labour fights for toehold in Ashdown's patch

By JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

LABOUR has used the local elections to launch Operation Toehold, an attempt to gain ground in areas such as Yeovil. Paddy Ashdown's constituency, where they have little council representation.

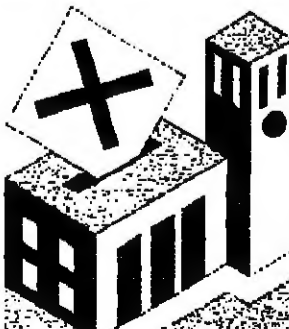
Not only can the Somerset market town boast Mr Ashdown, the party leader, as its MP but also Graham Watson, one of the Liberal Democrats' two representatives in Strassburg, as MEP for Somerset and North Devon. The party has a majority of 25 on the county council, 23 on South Somerset District Council, and is so embarrassed at holding all 24 seats on the town council that six

incumbents are not standing in this week's elections to give the opposition a chance.

Here the Tories are the party of opposition; Labour has only two county councillors and has not had been represented on the district council since 1983. At the last general election, the Labour candidate came third with just 9.6 per cent of the vote.

Last week Judith Church, Labour MP for Dagenham, east London, was out on the streets of Yeovil, meeting local businessmen and party activists.

She was the latest in a series of Labour MPs and frontbenchers to visit the



LOCAL ELECTIONS

South West as part of Operation Toehold. National party organisers have moved to the South and South West to co-ordinate the attack and have succeeded in putting up more

candidates than ever before in the Isle of Wight, Test Valley, Purbeck, Poole, East Hampshire, East Dorset, South Somerset, the New Forest, North Dorset and Christchurch.

The move is to give people the chance to vote Labour where previously there were no candidates, to capitalise on the "Blair effect" and to take anti-government votes away from the Liberal Democrats on Thursday.

"Labour is making steady progress in council by-elections across the country but especially here," Ms Church said. "It is Labour that is taking the disaffected Tory vote. In the past they have gone to the Liberal Demo-

crats but they are coming to Labour now."

The Liberal Democrats are sceptical. Simon Thompson, the party's agent in Yeovil, believes Labour risks splitting the opposition vote, saving some Tory seats.

Les Farris, a Liberal Democrat spokesman, said: "Labour is trying to use the Blair factor to parachute in and pick up this great surge of support. From what we are hearing, there is no visible surge anywhere."

Ken Jones, 44, a Liberal Democrat candidate for the new Cardiff council, who was disclosed to have more than 60 convictions for fraud and theft, has gone missing, his wife reported yesterday.



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# Scottish dukes offer to dispose of gallery dispute

TWO Scottish dukes, who between them own some of the finest paintings in Europe, have reopened the fierce debate about a new gallery of Scottish art.

The Dukes of Sutherland and Buccleuch, with some of the most distinguished figures in the Scottish art world, have written to the Scottish Secretary suggesting that the rich collection of Scottish pictures currently held in store and hidden from the public should be lent out to galleries around Scotland rather than housed only in Glasgow.

The row over where to house the collection has led to open rivalry between Glasgow and Edinburgh, with the final decision edging in Glasgow's favour.

The dukes' proposal is supported by the Scottish Arts Council and the Scottish Tourist Board, but it is likely to infuriate Glasgow's city fathers.

At the same time, it offers the Scottish Secretary a temptingly

■ Should unseen Scottish pictures go to a new gallery in Glasgow or Edinburgh? Neither, say two aristocrats. The paintings should be spread across Scotland. Magnus Linklater reports

cheap alternative to the options so far put forward by the trustees of the National Galleries of Scotland. Their favourite scheme, but also the most expensive to run, is a Glasgow equivalent to Paris's Musée d'Orsay, exhibiting mainly 19th and 20th-century Scottish and European paintings in the old Sheriff Court or the Post Office building on George Square.

Both sides at this stage are toeing round the issue. Dr Colin Thompson, a former director of galleries and prime mover of the new proposal with the art expert Martin Huggins, said yesterday: "We are not concerned with any comparison with other schemes.

Nor is it for us to decide which should be implemented."

Angus Grossart, chairman of the trustees, said diplomatically: "This offers a new dimension to how to get pictures out of store and on display. I wouldn't see it as a substitute for other options but as an addition."

Nevertheless, the new idea has already caused much intaking of breath in the gallery world. The fact that the letter has been signed by the Duke of Sutherland is seen as highly significant. His family has lent the National Gallery in Edinburgh some of its most fabulous pictures: three Raphaels, a Titian and seven Poussins

among them. They are regarded as central to the entire collection. "Without the Sutherland pictures this would be just another collection," one insider said. "With them, it is among the most important in Europe."

The Duke of Sutherland said: "It seems the ideal solution to me. Glasgow has got a lot of other things and I think that dispersing it around the country would be a good idea. It seems sensible and of course a much cheaper solution." The Duke of Buccleuch, who owns a number of Old Masters, including a Rembrandt and a Leonardo, and who is a frequent lender to galleries, said yesterday: "I think this would be a constructive way of making available a lot of pictures which are at present out of sight. It would be acceptable to many different parts of the country, and the lower running costs would be an important consideration."

The new proposal came after



The Dukes of Buccleuch and Sutherland, whose collections include Raphaels, a Titian, a Rembrandt and a Leonardo

the dispute that blew up when the trustees proposed moving the contents of the National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh to a site in Glasgow to form the core of a new collection. After public protests, this was finally rejected last year by Ian Lang, the Scottish Secretary. Instead, several options, all

favouring Glasgow, were put forward by the trustees. Those are still being considered.

The letter containing the new proposal also carries the signatures not only of the dukes and Dr Thompson, but Lord Prosser, a senior judge, Professor Hamish Miles, a former trustee, and

Professor Martin Kemp, who has been on the board of both the National Galleries of Scotland and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

It suggests a system of loans lasting a minimum of two years to local authority art galleries in Inverness, Perth, Dundee, Stirling and Dumfries among others. "The virtue of the scheme would lie in dispersal rather than concentration," it says. "We would come near to embodying Neil MacGregor's description of the British concept of a National Gallery as 'the private collection of every citizen'."

Last night the Scottish Office said that it awaited the recommendations of the trustees, and that all options would be considered. Mr Grossart summed up the views of his trustees by saying that it was they who would make the final decision: "Life's not just about juggling plates," he said. "Someone's got to set the table."

## Marinas turn into fortresses to thwart opportunists tempted by rich pickings afloat

### Police try to turn the tide against boat thieves

By EDWARD GORMAN

POLICE are pressing the Home Office to create a new classification of marine crime to help to combat growing theft from yachts and power boats.

Equipment worth millions of pounds is stolen from marinas every year, much of it ending up in "boat jumbles", the nautical equivalent of the car boot sale. The South Coast marinas are the worst hit. In Dorset the number of cases investigated has risen by 54 per cent in the past four years.

At present, crime associated with yachts and pleasure craft,

whether committed on the water or in boat yards, is grouped with ordinary land-based offences, making it difficult for police to gauge patterns and trends accurately. Sergeant Mike Stephenson, who heads the Poole marine police unit, one of the busiest in the country, will call on the Government to implement a separate statistical classification at the National Marine Police Officers' conference at Port Solent next month.

"The difficulty we have is that there is no national or local method of using statistics to analyse marine crime allocated by the Home Office," he said. He estimates that £2 million of gear was stolen from boats in Dorset last year. The figure for Poole Harbour, where up to 4,500 yachts and motorboats are moored, was about £650,000. The recovery rate was two-thirds.

One recent victim was William Tracy, whose £40,000 Sunseeker power boat, *Déjà-vu*, was broken into last month as she lay off the quay in her berth at Universal Marina in Hamble, Hampshire. Mr Tracy, 45, a company director, believes thieves planned to take *Déjà-vu* up river and strip her of her valuables



Boats in storage at Poole Harbour. An estimated £2 million of equipment was stolen from marinas in Dorset last year despite tighter security.

ready for sale at the Beaulieu boat jumble later the same week.

The gang smashed through the cabin door and hot-wired the engines before crashing the boat into the pontoon and running her aground on a mud and gravel bank 30 feet from her berth. The thieves then abandoned her, leaving Mr Tracy a £14,000 repair bill. He said: "With an open-cockpit boat you are very vulnerable. They can get under the cover and do what they like."

Sergeant Stephenson's team

operates from *Alarm*, a 33ft launch, and high-powered rigid inflatables and jetskis. It investigated 162 crimes in 1991. Last year it was 250. Many other offences were either reported too late or considered too trivial to warrant a full investigation.

The main problem is not theft of boats but thefts from them, with opportunists thieves taking advantage of flimsy hatches on most craft and the isolated nature of many moorings. They will take anything they can carry but the most popular items are navigation-

al equipment, such as VHF radios, satellite and land-based positioning systems, radar sets, echo sounders and logs. Also high on the list are powerful outboard motors and dinghies.

Sergeant Stephenson said: "We can't show evidence that stuff is stolen to order for boat jumbles, but there is little doubt stolen property does appear at them. The problem is identifying it as stolen property." In Poole, the police have initiated two crime prevention schemes, Shore Watch, which is like a Neigh-

bourhood Watch scheme, involving volunteers whose of or home overlooks harbour or moorings, and the Marina Lookout Scheme, through which yacht owners register their boats and equipment with the police.

"The boat most likely to be attacked is one that looks both insecure and vulnerable by its location," Sergeant Stephenson said.

"If you are in a well-patrolled, well-secured marina, there is every chance your boat will be alright. If you are on a remote, swinging moor-

ing, there is more chance of theft."

Cobbs Quay marina, just across the water from the police headquarters, is typical of many on the South Coast. It is having to spend increasing amounts on security. The marina, which has about 850 yachts, is about to install gates with combination locks at the head of each pontoon. It already has 24-hour security, lighting in the yards which switches on when people move among the boats, an automatic barrier at the main entrance and security cameras.



Tracy: £14,000 repair bill

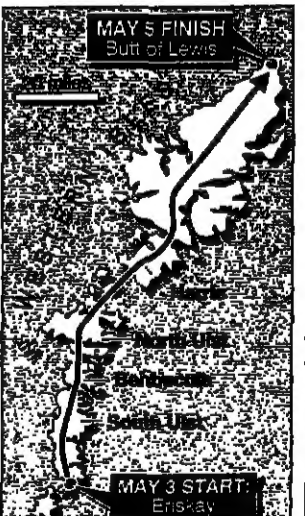
### Ultimate race by high or low road

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

A FORMER London merchant banker who runs a hotel on the Island of Harris in the Outer Hebrides with his wife is challenging 200 of the fittest people in Britain to a 200-mile race across the length of the Western Isles.

Ian Callaghan, 37, has devised an adventure sports race that cross-country runners say is the toughest in Britain. On Wednesday, 30 teams of four athletes will set off from the beach on the tiny island of Eriksey for a race lasting three days.

Competitors in the Western Isles Challenge have to



cover 200 miles, including 30 miles of sea crossing, using only human-powered transport. The teams of four typically comprise a canoeist, a mountain cyclist and two fell runners. The race, initiated by Mr Callaghan last year, is sponsored by the makers of Evening Primrose Oil.

### Bereaved mother returns payment

By NIGEL HAWKES

THE mother of a psychiatric patient who died after being held on the floor for 45 minutes has returned an £11,000 cheque to health officials.

Barbara Falconer, 41, of Torquay, returned the money after being told she could have the out-of-court settlement only if she accepted that the hospital had not been negligent. She also said South Devon Healthcare Trust asked her to sign a document agreeing to say nothing about the settlement.

Her son David was 23 when he died last July. He lost consciousness and had a heart attack when five nurses held him down at the Edith Martin Centre, where he was an inpatient. An inquest found that the trust was partly to blame

and highlighted that there was no duty doctor in residence. The jury returned a verdict of misadventure with neglect.

Mrs Falconer, an auxiliary nurse with the trust, said: "I cannot believe that they expect me to just pretend that David's death was no fault of theirs. I could not comply with their conditions. No amount of money could compensate for David's death."

Mrs Falconer and her husband want a public inquiry. They have written to Devon Police asking for trust chiefs to be prosecuted.

Tony Parr, chief executive of the trust, refused to comment. Torbay police also declined to respond. The centre is to be closed and replaced by a new unit at Torbay Hospital.

### Use of pig organs for transplant moves step closer

By NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

TRANSPLANTS from pigs to humans have come a step closer as a result of experiments in the United States. Surgeons at Duke University at Durham, North Carolina, have shown that genetically engineered hearts from pigs can survive for up to 30 hours when transplanted into baboons. Such transplants would normally be destroyed in an hour.

Dr John Fabre, of the Institute of Child Health in London, said the results were very encouraging. While the survival time of the transplanted hearts still falls well short of what would be needed before human experiments could begin, "a small additional nudge in the right direction could be very important", he said.

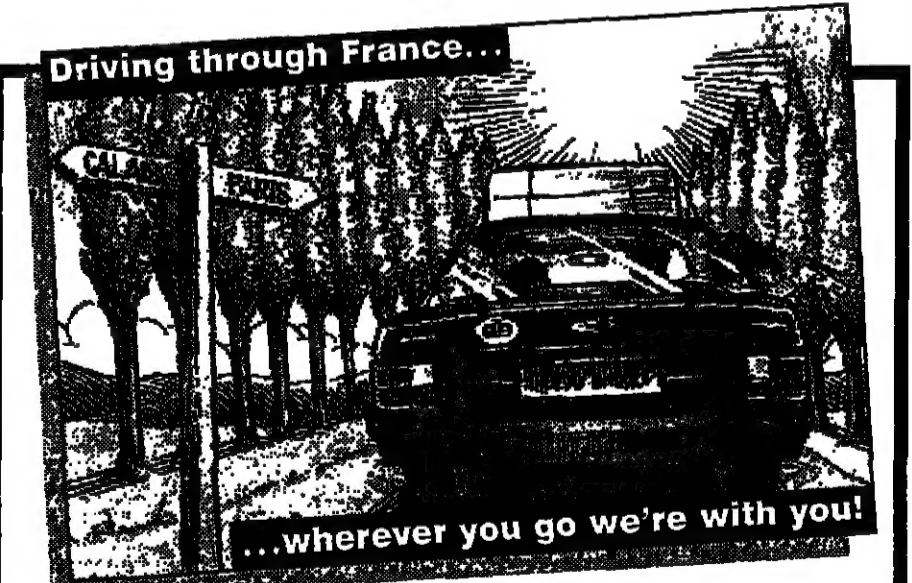
The Duke University team is one of several working towards "xenografts" — the transplanting of organs between species. Normally, such transplants are destroyed by the process of hyperacute rejection, turning black and dying within a few minutes to an hour.

To get round the problem, the scientists reports in *Nature Medicine*, they produced a breed of pigs containing human genes. These genes are responsible for producing the proteins that lie on the surface of cells and turn the rejection process off. Without them, the human body would quickly destroy its own organs.

Hearts from the transgenic pigs were then transplanted into the necks of baboons. They did not replace the baboons' hearts, but blood flowed through them and they continued pumping while the team monitored them. They showed much better survival than unmodified hearts, even if the best went on beating for only 30 hours.

The damage to the hearts when removed from the baboons was far less than that when unmodified pigs' hearts were used. The team, led by Dr Kenneth McCurry, says the results were encouraging, given the fairly low level of expression of the human proteins.

Dr Fabre, in a commentary in the journal, says that, given further improvements, he is fairly confident that the prevention of hyperacute rejection is well within reach. However, other rejection processes also need to be mastered, he says, before such transplants become a clinical reality. He does not expect social and ethical considerations to prevent such transplants.



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TIC7

### Blood test challenges taboo of the prostate

By DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

CANCER of the prostate kills more men in Western Europe and North America than any other malignancy other than cancer of the lung and is therefore the most lethal cancer in male non-smokers.

The subject has been taboo until recently, in part because the gland lies behind the perineum, hidden away around the outlet of the bladder between the root of the penis and the rectum.

The prostate, which produces much of the semen, can be felt only by rectal examination, which is neither a pleasant experience for the patient nor often a very revealing one for the doctor. Even the most gifted doctor's fingers are able

to detect only 30 per cent of malignant nodules.

When the tumour is larger, diagnosis is easier as the whole gland feels hard. Normally the gland is the size of a walnut, it should feel smooth, soft and rubbery, like the end of the nose. If the gland feels hard or wooden, like bony knuckle, alarm signals are hoisted. Increase in size alone is not necessarily a sign of malignancy. Every man's prostate gets larger with increasing age, so that of the walnut-sized gland of youth feels more like a tangerine in some older men.

The difficulty for doctors has been to decide which prostates are enlarging be-



nignly and which through cancerous change. The advent of a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test devised by Dr William Catalona, a urologist from the Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis, has made this decision easier.

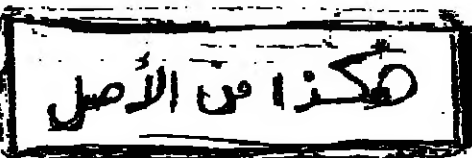
The PSA is a glycoprotein produced by the prostate to liquefy semen; although it increases in benign enlargement, this increase is much greater when malignancy is present. The PSA value be-

tween 0.5 and 4ng/ml is normal: between 4 and 10, the grey area, bears a 20 per cent chance that the man has cancer; if the reading is over 10 there is a 50 per cent chance. Patients with a PSA of over 4ng/ml need expert opinion and the specialist will usually decide to carry out ultrasound examination with a biopsy of any suspicious areas.

It is in these borderline cases that the estimate of the free-floating PSA as described by Dr Catalona's team will be

of value. Cases in which there has been a rise in the standard PSA of more than 20 per cent in any one year, or of more than 0.7ng/ml, also require explanation, if this change is confirmed at a second reading.

Not all doctors are agreed on the value of screening for cancer of the prostate but the majority opinion seems to be that ideally all men over 50 should have it done. Early cancer of the prostate can be symptom-free but, if any man does have symptoms, he too needs it. Enlargement of the prostate can cause trouble with urination, such as having to urinate frequently by day, having to get up at night, having a sprayed stream or problems starting or stopping.





# Vietnam plays down US humiliation

VIETNAM'S legendary military hero, General Vo Nguyen Giap, and other communist luminaries reviewed a colourful victory parade in Ho Chi Minh City yesterday to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the "liberation" of the former Saigon and the reunification of the nation.

In keeping with Vietnam's efforts to join the international mainstream and improve relations with the United States, the military component was played down.

Sergeant Vu Dang Toan, commander of the tank that smashed down the gates of South Vietnam's Presidential Palace as Saigon fell, was among Vietnamese veterans present for the celebrations.

Ho Chi Minh may be the last communist hero. Members of the Vietnamese Communist Party retain a strong sentimental attachment to him, even as the party veers from central planning towards the free market. Even anti-communists in former South Vietnam have a grudging respect for the revolutionary hero. It is unlikely, however, that Ho would have wished Saigon to be renamed in his honour.

"Ho Chi Minh was a genuinely modest man," noted one Vietnamese editor recently. "He would not have wanted a personality cult like Mao in China or the late Kim Il Sung in North Korea."

While wreaths were laid at communist cemeteries and memorials throughout Vietnam yesterday, there were no ceremonies to honour the 223,749 South Vietnamese soldiers who died. War veterans who fought for the US-backed South Vietnamese Army receive no pensions, unlike former communist troops.

Truong Tan Sang, chairman of Ho Chi Minh City's people's committee, eulogised communist war heroes and indulged in some triumphalism. But he did not mention America or its humiliating defeat. Hanoi is

**■ Twenty years after the war, Hanoi is being sensitive to wounded American pride in its quest for full diplomatic ties, reports James Pringle from Ho Chi Minh City**

eager for full diplomatic ties with Washington, but the issue is still bedevilled by the issue of 2,211 American servicemen missing in action (MIAs) in Indochina.

President Clinton lifted the American trade embargo early last year and US business is cautiously beginning to invest. Pepsi-Cola sponsored a marathon run which was part of the anniversary celebrations. The old American Embassy, which saw the final US evacuation and is now a run-down building, has been vacated by a Vietnamese oil corporation as former American diplomatic properties are readied to be handed back.

In April 1985 there was a huge military parade in the city, with tanks, rockets and mobile artillery pieces, but yesterday there were only goose-stepping soldiers and bemuddled war veterans.

Apparently offering an olive branch to former supporters of the US-backed Saigon regime, Mr Sang said: "For the sake of development, we are ready to put the past behind us and look to the future."

The biggest applause from a



Giap: revered war hero reviewed celebrations

tame audience — most Saigonese were excluded from the parade which was held in the sealed-off downtown area — was for a company of young women clad in the black pyjamas and battered bush hats of the Viet Cong, the indigenous southern guerrillas who bore the brunt of the "American War".

Some Viet Cong felt disillusioned when the war ended as northern cadres from Hanoi, often pen-pushers who had not fought the night of the US military machine, were given plum jobs and properties in the south.

In an apparent effort to broaden the base of its support, some of the floats in the non-military component of the parade celebrated Vietnam's main religions: Buddhism, Catholicism and the home-grown Cao Dai. Hanoi's often troubled past relations with these religions have been slowly improving lately.

One float depicted Saigon's Notre Dame Cathedral, while on a Buddhist float incense wafted before a portrait of Ho. Another float featuring a dragon honoured Vietnam's Chinese community, many of whose members were persecuted and fled as boat people in the late 1970s. Cholon, Saigon's Chinatown, is again enjoying growing prosperity.

"The Vietnamese Communist Party and Government seem to have covered most bases," noted one long-time foreign resident who watched the celebrations, which included a fireworks display and theatrical performances. "They are moving in the direction of reconciliation even if they are not there yet."

Leading article, page 17



A young Vietnamese woman salutes as her float, with a portrait of Ho Chi Minh, passes dignitaries during yesterday's parade to mark the communist victory

## Returning Hutus stoned to death, says UN agency

By SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

ABOUT 14 Hutus were stoned and beaten to death in a village in southern Rwanda after returning home from camps forcibly closed by government troops, a United Nations official said yesterday.

"One hundred others were forced to flee into the bush while women were subjected to indignities such as walking without their clothes on," said Fernando del Mundo, a spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Señor del Mundo said the killings were in the village of Huye, near the southern town of Butare. A government spokeswoman denied knowledge of any killings.

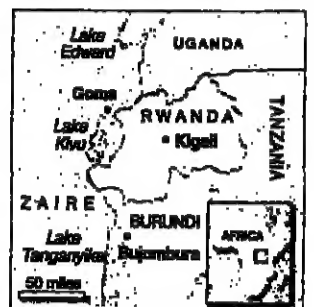
A solution to the violence put forward by President Moi of Kenya has apparently received backing from George Moose, the US Under Secretary of State for African Affairs. Mr Moi suggested that if Rwandan and Burundian Hutus and Tutsis cannot live alongside one another, then one country should be given to the Hutus and the other to the Tutsis. But such a suggestion reflects staggering ignorance of the region's problems, and in Kenya's case a vested interest of the ruling elite.

The idea may be backed by Rwandan Hutu extremists, living in exile after the genocide they organised last year, because it would allow them to dodge tribunals for their part in it. But first there is the question of numbers. The pre-genocide populations of Rwanda and Burundi were approximately 85 per cent Hutu and 14 per cent Tutsi, the rest being Twa (pygmies). Since the massacres of Tutsi and Hutu moderates in Rwanda last year, the country's demographic profile has been distorted beyond recognition.

Of the 8.5 million total, two million Hutus fled Rwanda when the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Front took power in July and the number of Rwandan resident Tutsis fell drastically after the murder of a million, then rose with the return of perhaps 150,000 exiles.

The new Government, though led by a Hutu President and Prime Minister, remains dominated by the military, which is at least 70 per cent Tutsi. Likewise, Burundi's Government is under the thumb of the Tutsi army.

"Even if one could parcel them off into tribal homelands, it is ridiculous to think



that either the Rwandan Government or Burundi's army would accept this. It would mean that all the Tutsis in the region got 30 per cent of the land whereas now they effectively control both countries," said a Western diplomat in Kigali.

President Moi's enthusiasm for a homeland solution stems from the ruling Kenya African National Union's desire to divide his country into ethnic blocks. This would confine large tribes such as the Kikuyu to their "traditional" areas around Mount Kenya, and leave the vast Rift Valley to Mr Moi's tribal backers.

## Children pay price of 1990s conflicts

By EVE-ANN PRENTICE  
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

CHOL is a child of the 1990s. He is one of the growing millions of youngsters who suffer acutely from the effects of a multitude of conflicts that have broken out since the end of the Cold War.

He was nine years old and playing outside "when the soldiers came" and he fled the civil war in Sudan. Chol nearly starved as he and his brother made their way to Ethiopia, back to Sudan, then finally to Kenya. "We didn't know where our mother or father were, we didn't say goodbye," he says.

Today, Chol lives in Kenya after being helped by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and he says: "I am 14 now. I am an oldie man now. My mother will not know me."

Chol's story is depressingly familiar to Save the Children, which today calls on the international community to formulate longer-term solutions to easing the suffering of child victims of unrest.

Save the Children urges, in its report published today, new strategies to help "millions more children whose lives are being laid to waste in a growing list of forgotten emergencies around the world". It says: "This is an era dominated not by conflicts between states, which the UN's Charter was drawn up to prevent, but by conflicts that are within states."

The "safe haven" concept pioneered for the Kurds of northern Iraq "still allows only a hand-to-mouth existence", the report says. "Four years on, Kurdish children still suffer and fear the future." Mike Aaronson, Director-General of Save the Children, says: "Today what we see is an international policy of studied neglect which compounds children's suffering."

Some of the most acute problems are in Angola, Liberia and Afghanistan, where a third of children die before their fifth birthday, the report says.

Children of Forgotten Emergencies is published by Save the Children, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD.

Delhi march: Two hundred children, declaring themselves representatives of 100 million child workers in India, marched through Delhi yesterday in protest at their exploitation by adults. It was a unique and embarrassing demonstration for a country that regards itself as an emerging economic giant.

## Fatah tells Arafat to halt talks

Jerusalem: Fatah, the main Palestine Liberation Organisation faction, called on Yasser Arafat to abort negotiations with Israel in protest at Israeli plans to confiscate 133 acres of mainly Arab-owned land in annexed east Jerusalem for Jewish building projects (Christopher Walker writes).

Members of Fatah provide the PLO chairman with his main support in the Gaza Strip and the occupied West Bank. Yesterday's call in a special leaflet followed a similar demand 24 hours earlier by Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, which condemned the Israeli land order as a "Zionist crime".

Tel Aviv: Syria is preparing for war against Israel in case peace talks collapse, Major-General Amrham Levine, the commander in charge of the Syrian front, said in remarks published yesterday. (AP)

Appeal to army

London: Captain Valentine Strasser, the military ruler of Sierra Leone, said a return to democracy was inevitable and called on the army to play a neutral role in politics in the run-up to the restoration of civilian rule next year.

Jail wives wait

Nicosia: Twenty-four hours after arriving in Baghdad, the wives of William Barlow and David Dalibard, the Americans jailed in March by Iraq, were still waiting for a promised visit to the Abu Ghraib prison to be granted.

Rights defence

Cairo: Representatives of Iran, Syria, Egypt and Israel, all accused by human rights groups of violations, told a United Nations conference on crime that their laws guaranteed the rights of alleged offenders. (Reuters)

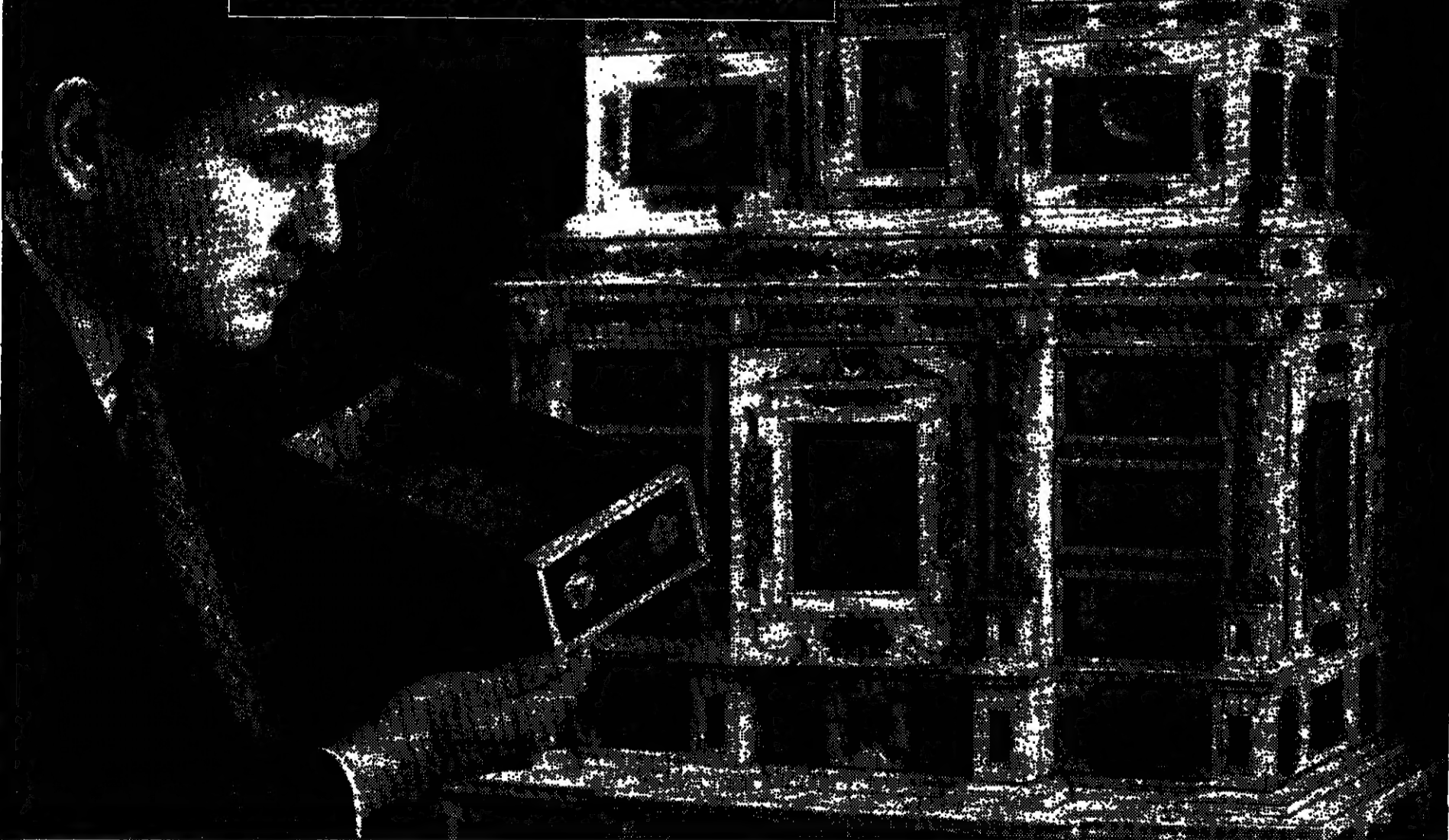
Leader returns

Colombo: President Bandaranaike Kumaratunga cut short a visit to Paris and returned to Sri Lanka to see if the peace process could be salvaged after Tamil rebels shot down two military planes, killing 90 people. (AP)

Rare bird dies

Tokyo: One of Japan's only two crested ibises, a water bird species near extinction, died aged 21, a month after being paired with a three-year-old female borrowed from China. It is not known if their five eggs will hatch. (AFP)

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## UN gives up hope of negotiating truce extension

## Bosnia heads for bloody showdown

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

AS THE four-month ceasefire comes to an end in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the stage for what could be the most ruthless and decisive phase of the war has been set by increasingly brazen Serb affronts to the United Nations and a more aggressive Bosnian army.

"If we accept it [the ceasefire] now, we participate in the legalisation of the occupation of our own country, something that we shall not do," Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian Prime Minister, said yesterday. Seventy per cent of the country is at present in the hands of Serb separatists.

"I regret that the response we received was not positive," Yasushi Akashi, the UN envoy, said after his talks with Mr Silajdzic.

The ceasefire expires at midday today, and fighting is already raging unchecked in several disputed areas. Mr Silajdzic told Mr Akashi that the Bosnian Government could only offer to exercise "maximum restraint" in the light of the Bosnian Serbs' refusal to agree to an international peace plan for the former Yugoslav republic.

The key Serb figure, the army commander General Ratko Mladic, was not expected to appear at Mr Akashi's meeting with Mr Karadzic, despite pleas from the UN for him to attend.

Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith, the commander of UN peacekeepers in Bosnia, has been trying unsuccessfully to meet General Mladic since

assuming the post in January. Without the nod from General Mladic, any Serb agreements or assurances would be meaningless.

UN officials said that they had all but given up hope of extending the current agreement, which called for a range of measures to reduce tensions. Few of those were ever implemented, and even those that were have fallen by the wayside in the second half of the four-month period.

"Zero progress" is how one UN official described the outcome of the most recent talks. Peacekeepers are growing increasingly resigned to a withdrawal from the country later this year, abandoning three years of frustrated efforts to find a solution to the conflict. France in particular has threatened to pull its more than 3,000 "blue helmets" from Bosnia if the ceasefire is not extended and full-scale fighting resumes.

Peacekeeping officials and Western leaders are concerned that the combination of Serb belligerence and government assertiveness on the battlefield is gradually shutting down the UN operation.

A spate of Serb attacks on peacekeepers, harassment of UN flights into Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, refusals to permit senior UN and Western diplomats into the city, blockades of resupply convoys bound for peacekeepers, and other antagonisms have brought the three-year-old mission to an all-time low.

On Saturday a British UN



Admir Zebic, 15, is examined at Sarajevo's Kosevo Hospital after he was shot in the spine by a sniper. Doctors said he would be paralysed from the waist down

base was deliberately hit with tank-fire, another British observation post was targeted by a 40mm cannon violating the Nato heavy-weapons ban around Gorazde, a Nordic Battalion observation post was shelled intermittently for an afternoon, and a Dutch foot patrol was engaged by rifle

fire. Additionally, Croatian Serbs launched at least one two-jet, cross-border air raid on the Bosnian government-held Bijac enclave, in violation of a Nato-policed flight ban over the country. Last November, such a provocation drew a Nato bombing run on the air base, which has since

been repaired. It was used in yesterday's attack.

Driver shot: A Bosnian government minister was nearly killed when his chauffeur was shot dead as he drove down a mountain road towards Sarajevo. (Reuters)

War looms, page 1

## Le Pen enjoys May Day role as kingmaker

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN PARIS

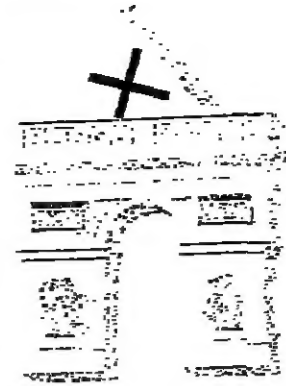
BUOYED by his strong electoral score, Jean-Marie Le Pen, the leader of France's far Right National Front, today leads a gaudy parade through Paris as the Gaullist and Socialist presidential rivals rehearse for a television showdown that could decide which of them heads France into the next century.

M Le Pen, 66, is to march at the head of his militants from Saint Germain-des-Près to the Opéra to celebrate the feast of Joan of Arc. Usually ignored by the media and kept to a less visible route, the May Day march has seized the limelight because of M Le Pen's 15 per cent of the vote in the first presidential round last week, just behind Edouard Balladur, the Gaullist Prime Minister.

Speaking from a stage outside the old Opéra, M Le Pen is to advise his supporters where to direct their votes in next Sunday's run-off between Jacques Chirac and Lionel Jospin. M Le Pen has conducted a feud with M Chirac, the Gaullist Mayor of Paris, since the mid-1980s. However, the electorate has proven so volatile and disaffected with the mainstream this year that the decisions of the 4.5 million Le Pen voters will weigh heavily.

Polls show that half say they will vote for M Chirac, 62, who is leading M Jospin by between eight and ten percentage points. Some 18 per cent of all voters say that they have yet to decide.

The candidates have refused concessions to the National Front, but both have distinguished between the unsavoury M Le Pen and what they see as the voters who were registering "legitimate"



## FRENCH ELECTION

concerns about unemployment, crime and corruption. Both candidates spent the weekend sharpening their messages before their debate tomorrow, a ritual which is deemed to have swung voters in the past two elections.

After faltering following his unexpected second place to M Jospin, M Chirac is breathing more easily since his former conservative foes turned out for a rally of reconciliation in the Bois de Boulogne in Paris at the weekend. There was, however, little warmth on show as a grim-looking M Balladur engaged in a handshake with his conqueror so rapid that photographers could barely record it.

M Jospin has taken aim at M Chirac's Achilles' heel: his reputation over two decades for switching ideas to suit the climate. "M Chirac spent the whole first-round campaign attacking the policies of Balladur and the Government. Now that they are making up, one no longer knows what his political line is," M Jospin said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Russian generals criticised by Bonn

BONN: The strain in relations between Moscow and Bonn bubbled to the surface yesterday when two senior Cabinet ministers sharply criticised Russian generals and the government for making bellicose statements (Roger Boyes writes).

The dispute comes on top of a report that some 165 Russians in Germany, including journalists, scientists and artists, are actively working as spies. *Der Spiegel* claims that the German counter espionage service is seeking their expulsion.

Klaus Kinkel, Foreign Minister, said yesterday: "In recent days there have been irritating signals and statements by Russian politicians and the Army. They touch on basic questions of the relationship between Russia and its partners. The tone of these declarations is quite inappropriate and the contents beg many questions."

□ Moscow: President Yeltsin announced yesterday that the period of compulsory military service would be extended from 18 months to two years and that students would no longer be exempt. (AFP)

## Longer service

Moscow: In a move to bolster the ranks of Russia's shrinking military, President Yeltsin signed an unpopular law extending military service from 18 months to two years for Russian men. He said national security was at stake.

## Test refused

Rome: Suspicion mounted that a statue of the Madonna weeping tears of blood in the port city of Civitavecchia might be a fake after its owner declined to undergo genetic tests ordered by investigating magistrates.

## Re-election bid

Warsaw: President Walesa of Poland announced that he plans to stand for re-election later this year. Mr Walesa, 52, was first elected in 1990 and had been widely expected to stand again despite his recent decline in popularity. (Reuters)

## Blast arrests

Tagu: A gas explosion which killed 100 South Koreans here was probably caused by a welding spark, police said. Three employees of an engineering firm have been arrested on suspicion of rupturing a gas main. (Reuters)

## Somalia killing

Melbourne: Australia has received confirmation that David Morris, 52, the New Zealand owner of an Australian catering business, has been killed in Somalia. An Australian Foreign Affairs spokeswoman said. (Reuters)

## Prayers for rain

Dhaka: Bangladeshi authorities called for daily prayers for rain from Wednesday as the death toll from sunstroke in the worst heatwave for 23 years rose to eight. Temperatures reached 41°C (106°F) at the weekend. (AFP)

## Quake forecast

Los Angeles: A leading geologist has predicted that a big earthquake would hit California before June 9. Professor Charles Sammis said that it would register up to 6.5 on the Richter scale and strike near the town of Parkfield.

## Baby rescued

Lisbon: A newborn baby was rescued by villagers in Trinta, Portugal, after being left for three days in a suitcase. Neighbours heard the boy crying and found him in a blanket in the case, the *Publico* newspaper said. (AFP)

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## Kazakh leader postpones election

BY RICHARD BEESTON

PRESIDENT Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan claimed yesterday to have won an overwhelming endorsement from his countrymen to remain in office until the turn of the century. He postponed elections scheduled for next year.

In a move which critics at home and abroad claimed was tantamount to the introduction of a dictatorship, the leader of the huge mineral-rich Central Asian state claimed he had received a 95.4 per cent vote in a referendum to stay in office until 2000.

The choice made by the people of Kazakhstan gives their common motherland a chance for stability and delivers a resolute "no" to unwanted trouble and big upheavals," the President, a former communist leader, said.

Aleksandra Dokuchayeva, head of Lad, the country's Slav movement which campaigned against the election postponement, alleged however that there were numerous electoral violations in the referendum among the country's nine million voters.

"This figure of 95 per cent reminds one of Soviet-era elections," she said. "These figures do not correspond to reality."

Western representatives from the G7 group of leading industrial nations signalled their disapproval of what is regarded as a move away from democracy by boycotting the announcement of the referendum results.

Nevertheless, President Nazarbayev remained unrepentant and denied that he was installing one-man rule. "Talk of a dictatorship is absolutely baseless and irresponsible," he said. "The very word scares me."

## Clinton defies Supreme Court on school gun ban

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

BILL CLINTON has taken the rare step for an American President of defying the US Supreme Court, which last week struck down a federal law making it a crime to carry a gun in or near a school.

Mr Clinton, saying he was "terribly disappointed", directed Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, to devise a plan for keeping guns away from schools despite the Supreme Court's ruling. One way would be to deny federal funds to school districts that refuse to ban guns.

In their ruling, the bitterly divided justices decided, by five votes to four, that the Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990 was illegal on the narrow constitutional ground that it was not covered by the power of the US Congress to regulate interstate commerce.

According to Mr Clinton, the rising tide of guns in the hands of high-school students

is a national crisis that has been largely responsible for 105 violent deaths in schools in the past two years. The President said that a 1990 study found one in 24 students carried guns, and by 1993 the number was one in 12. However,

Tunis: Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, said that the Oklahoma City bombing was the reaction of American people against "nightmares and tyranny". He offered the Clinton family refuge in Libya from "America's hell". (Reuters)

er, for all his fury, 40 of the 50 states have already superseded the Supreme Court by passing their own laws banning school guns. But in the wake of the Oklahoma bombing, Mr Clinton is taking every opportunity to confront

America's violence and gun culture, and is also seeing his approval ratings climb.

The devastated federal building in Oklahoma City has become so unstable that recovery efforts may have to be halted. The confirmed death toll reached 124 yesterday, 15 of them children, with 64 people still missing. Frank Keating, the Governor of Oklahoma, proposed razing the building when salvage efforts are completed and turning the site into a park as a final resting place for those whose remains are not recovered.

Authorities investigating Timothy McVeigh, the only suspect arrested, are coming to the conclusion that he was probably not the plot's mastermind. He is portrayed more as a foot soldier, running errands such as renting the van that carried the huge bomb of fertiliser and fuel oil.

## Doubts on Foster suicide

BY IAN BRODIE

A NEW report has raised the question again of whether the death nearly two years ago of Vincent Foster, the Deputy White House Counsel, was a murder that was made to look like suicide.

The private investigation was conducted by two retired New York detectives who said there was "overwhelming evidence" that Foster did not die where his body was found on July 20, 1993, in a park near Washington. Murder could not be ruled out, the pair said. The study was financed by the Western Journalism Centre, a conservative group.

One of the former detectives, Vincent Salice, said police work on the case had

been sloppy and incomplete. He was especially doubtful about the official report that Foster was found lying with his arms at his side. He said that in nearly 30 years of police work, he could not recall "ever running across a situation where we found a body in a case of suicide that was neatly arranged, with the gun so conveniently positioned in the hand in such a straight, orderly fashion".

Other questions were raised by the study: the spent bullet was never found; there was no soil or grass on Foster's shoes; there was little blood or brain tissue near the body, which was inconsistent with a shot to the head, and although fibres

were found on the body, Foster's home, office and car were never searched for ones to match.

The second investigator, Fred Santucci, a forensic photographer, said he was shocked to discover that no high-quality photographs were taken of the scene.

As a close friend of President and Mrs Clinton, Foster handled their personal financial affairs, including details of their property dealings in the Whitewater affair. Kenneth Starr, the new special prosecutor, has reopened the official investigation into the death, with the help of a grand jury, which is hearing evidence in secret.

## Moscow 'Hippo' goes on trial for 19 murders

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

AN ALLEGED Russian serial killer, who dismembered and sexually assaulted his victims, has gone on trial accused of murdering 19 people during a ten-year murder spree in and around Moscow.

Sergei Ryakhovsky, 33, who has been nicknamed "the Hippopotamus" because of his large build, is expected back in Moscow's regional court this week under heavy guard to hear further grisly details about the murders he is accused of committing. Last

week, Yevgeniya Zaikova, the distraught mother of one of the victims, said she believed that Mr Ryakhovsky was the assailant who raped and murdered her teenage son, Vitali, in January 1989.

"He speared him through with a ski-stick," said the mother, who explained that her son was left to bleed to death in a suburban wood just after the New Year holiday. "The whole town buried him. Two boys vowed over his grave to take revenge. Our family used to be so happy," she said, sobbing.

According to the prosecution, the defendant, who is

more than 6ft tall and weighs 20st, usually murdered his victims before sexually assaulting them and robbing them of any valuables.

In one case in January 1993, Mr Ryakhovsky is accused of killing a 78-year-old man by cutting off his head with a hunting knife and then returning the following day to saw off his leg. Later that year he allegedly murdered a woman, committed necrophilia, and then blew up her body with a homemade bomb.

Mr Ryakhovsky at first confessed to the murders, saying that he wanted to rid society of "good for nothing

people". Now, however, he is only pleading guilty to three charges of attempted murder on elderly women, claiming that his previous admissions were made under duress.

The trial is expected to last two months. If found guilty, he will almost certainly face the death penalty, as did two other Russian serial killers arrested recently. Andrei Chikailo, the "Rostov Ripper", was executed for murdering 52 people in the 1970s and 1980s in southern Russia. Sergei Golovkin, the "Boa", was sentenced to death in October for killing 11 young boys from 1984 to 1992.

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Hitler's imperial fantasies came to nothing but he continues to capture the popular imagination

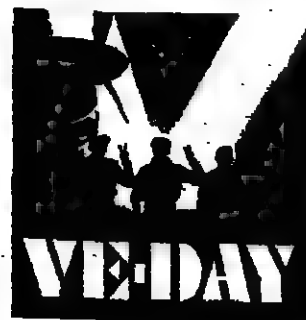
## Bunker suicide put seal on early end to 1,000-year Reich

By JOHN YOUNG

AT 2.30pm on April 30, 1945, Sergeant Kantariya of the Soviet Army waved a red banner from the second floor of the Reichstag, Hitler's puppet parliament in Berlin. One hour later, the Führer finished lunch in a room in his bunker and ordered his secretary, Martin Bormann, and Josef Goebbels, his Propaganda Minister who doubled as the capital's gauleiter, into the passage outside.

Moments later there was a single shot. Staff re-entering the room found their leader dead, apparently having shot himself in the mouth. Beside him was the body of Eva Braun, the mistress whom he had married just 36 hours earlier and who had taken poison. That same day both corpses were dragged into a courtyard, doused with petrol and incinerated.

At 10.50, that evening, two Russian soldiers reached the roof of the Reichstag and found a gap caused by shell-fire. In it they planted a flagpole on which they ran up



the Red Flag to inform the world that the 1,000-year Reich had ended prematurely after just 12 years.

Such were the part-heroic, part-sordid elements of the *Götterdämmerung* (twilight of the gods) that Hitler might secretly have foreseen and feared. For weeks beforehand, as the Russians advanced from the east, the British and Americans from the west and his forces in Italy collapsed, he must have been aware that the Rhine had symbolically risen to obliterate his dream.

If he had needed a signal, it had come ten days earlier on the afternoon of April 20, when two Russian long-range

artillery shells landed in Berlin. By that time the morale of its inhabitants had been shattered by months of incessant bombing.

During 1943 and 1944 the RAF mounted a succession of 1,000-bomber raids. One in three homes had been destroyed and 150,000 civilians killed or seriously injured.

It was the threat from the east that obsessed Berliners. One reason was that vastly more Germans had been killed and wounded in the disastrous invasion of Russia, and in the equally bloody counter-offensive by the Red Army, than on the Western Front.

Some three and a half years had passed since the launch of Operation Barbarossa, when Hitler turned on his former ally Stalin. By now his boastful forecast of an empire stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals, and his theories of an insuperable master Aryan race that would consign the Slavs to the same fate as the Jews, had been exposed as hideous nonsense. After crossing the Oder and the Neisse,



Peter Saltz, a US Army private, inspects the bed where Hitler slept in his bunker in the days before he committed suicide as Berlin fell

three Russian army groups, under the command of the Soviet Marshals Zhukov, Konev and Rokossovsky, were advancing on the city from north, east and south. The Western Allies, true to the agreement reached at Yalta, had halted on the Elbe.

Those Berliners who had hoped that they might be able to throw themselves upon the mercy of the British and

Americans were sadly disappointed. The choice was between the Red Army and a long trek westward, a course for which many high-ranking Nazis opted.

As the Russians entered the city, resistance in the form of street-to-street fighting was largely confined to the Hitler Youth and the home guard, both poorly trained and armed. The rest of the citizen-

ry had had enough; all they wanted was an end to their suffering. Hitler screamed against any talk of surrender.

Albert Speer, his Minister for Munitions and at one time one of his closest confidants, refused to carry out orders to destroy all factories, bridges, roads and railways, arguing that it was now all too late. But his stand itself was too late; he was captured and jailed in

Spandau. After Hitler's suicide, Goebbels assumed temporary command and attempted to negotiate a truce, evidently believing that the Russians would recognise him as Chancellor. Having failed to do so, he killed himself the following morning. His wife, Magda, poisoned each of their six young children before taking her own life. By May 2, the Russians were in full control

of "the lair of the Fascist monster". General Weidling, the German military commandant, recorded a message of unconditional surrender which was broadcast from loudspeaker vans across the city.

Hitler was dead and of his henchmen, several committed suicide; the rest surrendered or were captured to face trial by war crimes tribunals.

## Führer retains a powerful grip on global psyche

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

FIFTY years after Adolf Hitler's body was burned and buried in the garden of his Berlin Chancellery, the Nazi leader retains a grip on the popular imagination in Germany and the world.

Historians argue over Hitler's final moments in the bunker; teachers and politicians disagree over how to portray him in textbooks; an exhibition of Hitler portraits is viewed as dangerous; and publishers fret about publishing his lurid manifesto, *Mein Kampf*.

Hitler compels attention. A picture of him or a swastika on the cover of a paperback can boost sales by 25 per cent or more in the United States and many European countries. The sheer evil of the man fascinates in the same way that serial murderers captivate reading and cinema audiences. Little wonder that the details of his death are combed over and over again.

There is the melodrama of April 29-30, his last two days alive: the thunder of artillery fire over the bunker, the strange wedding with Eva Braun — witnessed by Josef Goebbels and Martin Bormann — the dictation of his personal and political wills, the final disastrous report from the front, the handing out of poison capsules, the fatal shot. A frantic 48 hours for the infirm Führer as the Third Reich and his personal crazed world collapsed around him.

It took many months — and a bizarre reconstruction with captured bunker survivors — to convince Stalin that Hitler was really dead. The Nazi leader had been endowed with almost demonic status by the Russians. How could he die like a normal human being? For years Hitler was "spotted" in Paraguay and other distant places.

It is this uncertainty about the real meaning and character of Hitler that has prompted the macabre stories of recent weeks. *Der Spiegel*, after digging in Moscow archives, plausibly claimed that Hitler, his wife, and the Goebbels family were moved from the Chancellery garden, buried at a Soviet army base in Magdeburg, and later cremated by KGB

agents. Arguments rage over the exact manner of his death. Historians have dismissed with unusual ferocity claims by the surgeon and writer, Hugh Thomas, that Hitler was strangled by his valet.

More intriguing, perhaps, is the magnetic pull of the banal minutiae of Hitler's life. A recent display of portraits taken by his "court" photographer, Heinrich Hoffmann, drew the crowds in Munich. Hitler with dog, Hitler in leather shorts, all very lastingly lit. Berlin, nervous that the photographs were leading to the myth, decided not to stage the exhibition, and it has since moved to Switzerland.

Teachers view enthusiastically about a Hitler comic book which tried to give a human dimension to the Nazi leader, but it was withdrawn from schools after politicians lost their nerve. The interest is by



Braun: married Nazi leader in bunker

no means confined to Germany. Hitler, in his monstrous dimensions, has become something of a universal yardstick. There is curiosity about his wine cellar, his dogs, his taste in books. Perhaps the accumulation of trivia is a way of piecing together the puzzle of Hitler's charisma.

Despite German attempts to prevent foreign publication, *Mein Kampf* has been translated into several languages. The Bavarian Finance Ministry, which has the rights to the virulently anti-Semitic book, has turned down printing requests from Hungary and Norway and has persuaded publishers in Mexico and Spain to stop producing the book.

## Survivors of Dachau remember in the rain

FROM LARRY THORSON IN DACHAU

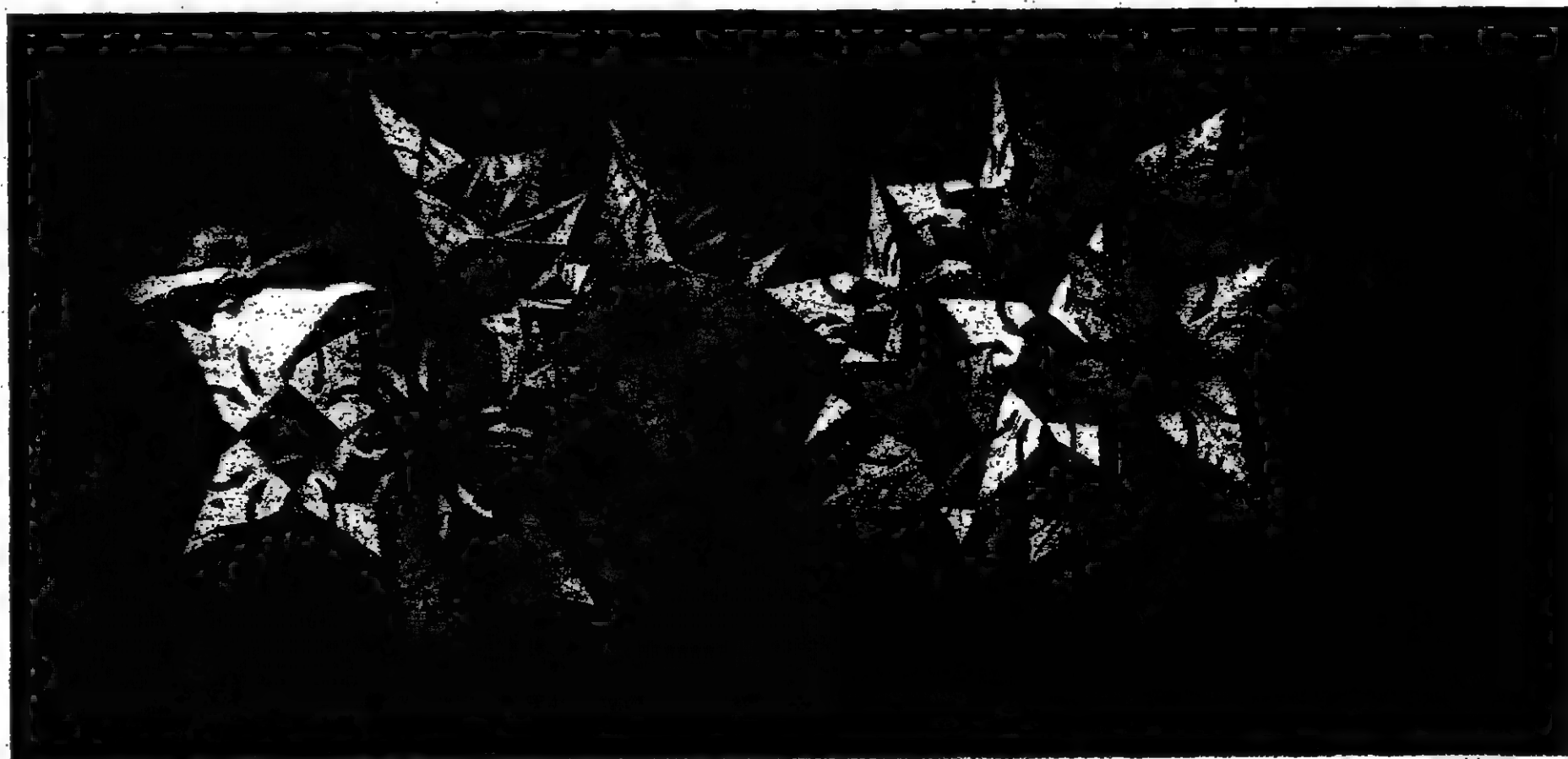
WITH prayers for the tens of thousands of dead, survivors of the Dachau concentration camp yesterday used the fifth anniversary of their liberation to remind future generations to be vigilant against Fascism and inhumanity.

A steady rain drenched those who came to renew their memories of Dachau, the first concentration camp set up by Hitler soon after he took power in 1933. More than 30,000 died at Dachau. When US Army units of the 42nd Infantry, the Rainbow Division, liberated the camp, they

found railway wagons full of corpses, and bodies stacked outside the crematorium as the SS had run out of coal.

□ Mauthausen: Ceremonies dedicated to the memory of prisoners who died in the Austrian death camp here begin tomorrow, with American veterans who liberated Mauthausen expected at the main commemoration next Sunday. More than 110,000 people died here, mostly worked to death in an adjacent quarry. Some starving inmates ate the raw flesh of dying comrades. (AP)

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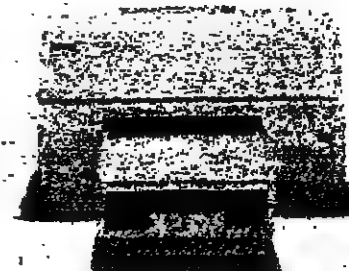
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THEATRE

At the National, David Hare unveils his new play, *Skylight* — an intense study of love turned cold  
OPENS: Thursday  
REVIEW: Saturday

POP

A hint of Tex-Mex, a whiff of Memphis blues: hot out of Miami, The Mavericks come to Shepherd's Bush  
GIG: Thursday  
REVIEW: Monday

FILM

Thuggery on the terrace: the gritty new movie, *L.A.*, offers a raw view of soccer hooligans  
OPENS: Friday  
REVIEW: Thursday

BOOKS

What did you do on VE-Day, Daddy? Times reviewers pick the best of the May 8 memoirs  
IN THE SHOPS: Now  
REVIEW: Thursday

ARTS  
TUESDAY TO  
FRIDAY  
IN SECTION 2

# Dog days and dark days

VISUAL ART: In Los Angeles, David Hockney has launched his most impressive exhibition for years. Giles Whittell reports

One of the perks of being the best-known visual artist of your time and place is that eventually BMW slides up and asks you for your autograph. You are invited, that is, as Rauschenberg and Lichtenstein were before you, to paint one of its cars. In return you get a factory-painted one free.

David Hockney has chosen a top-of-the-line BMW 850i coupe. A scale model of one on which he has roughed out his design sits on a pedestal in the middle of his barn-like studio (barn-like except for its scratched roof, which famously, lets the LA afternoon pour in as if from halogen lamps). The few paint jobs will be simple, impossibly so. Various things that belong inside the actual machine — a big V8 engine, two passengers, and a dog on the back seat — will be rendered crudely, as a child might render them, on the outside. It should take a couple of days.

As I gawp at the conception and its chutzpah, the artist merely chuckles and admits it should be "fun".

Connections undoubtedly exist between this inside-out of a motor car and the adventures in abstraction in his latest exhibition, but he leaves it to the viewer to make them. He certainly shows no sign of coveting another sports car. (He already owns a big Mercedes for his ritualistic drives between Hollywood and Malibu, which he has "choreographed" to Wagner.)

In fact, after an hour or so in Hockney's presence, it seems that the real peak of pre-eminence at a time of deep sadness over the loss of friends to AIDS and other illnesses may be straightforward: it gives him the option of keeping very busy.

Hockney pretends to be baffled by the question of why he keeps working, and perhaps with reason. For 30 years, from Bradford to California and in plenty of hotels and opera houses in between, he has scarcely stopped painting — simple evidence that industry is simply in his blood. "What else would you do?" he says. "You have to keep the mind exercised. You have to find excitement."

But in recent months he has lost four friends, among them the New York curator Henry Geldzahler, and he has needed solace too.

"If you're not working, and pondering too much instead," he says, "I think you go mad." One result of the therapy is the current exhibition, his largest since the major retrospective that travelled from Los Angeles to the Tate via New York in 1988. Begun in 1993 but completed in a crescendo of activity this winter, the new work at the LA Louver gallery, near

Venice beach, is in three distinct groups laboriously titled *Some Very Large New Paintings With Twenty-Five Dogs Upstairs And Some Drawings Of Friends*.

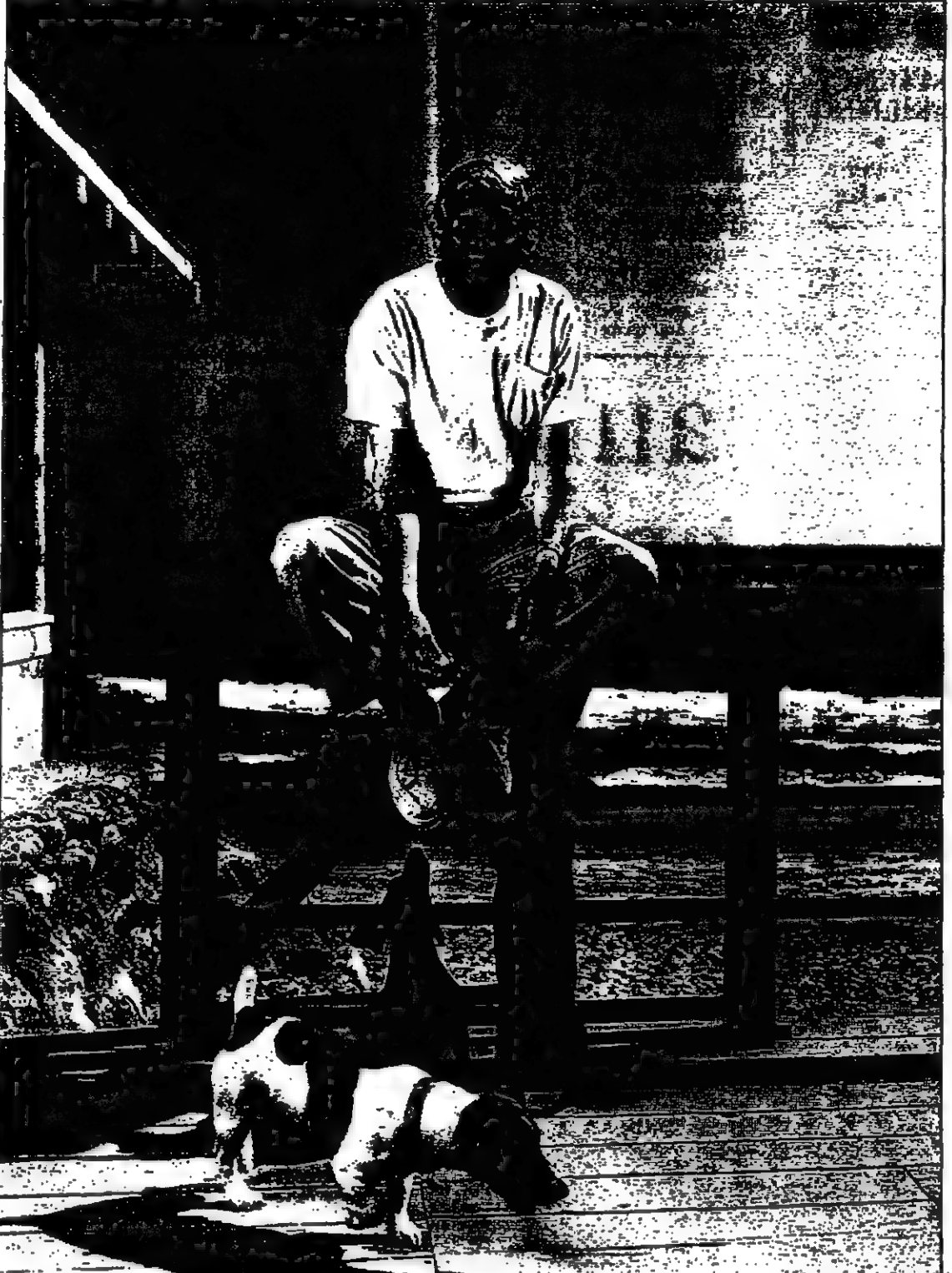
One painting dominates the show. It's an enormous, mesmeric canvas, in two halves, as rich in texture and perspective as it is in shape and colour. If there are traces in it of Hockney's past visions of southern California — *The Road To Malibu* (1988), for instance — they are overwhelmed by the painting's conceptual ambitions. Kimberly Davis, who has represented Hockney at the Louver for more than a decade, calls this piece "the culmination of a 15-year inquiry into abstraction and space as redefined by Cubism". Quantum physics and Chinese scrolls apparently had a hand in it as well.

Hockney adds that the painting, called *Snail's Space*, is composed on "the scale necessary for drawing with your body", as distinct from with your wrist or fingers. He demonstrates the difference, first making quick black squiggles on a sheet of brown paper at his elbow (the temptation to piff it is considerable), then striding down the studio brandishing a giant paintbrush. The idea, he explains, is to help to draw the viewer into the painting with the intimacy of his own body language.

Beyond this, he is a reluctant interpreter of his latest showpiece. As one of the purest works of abstraction he has attempted it is also, after all, one of his most subjective. "There's all complicated things there," he draws in his unique dialect of Yorkshire vowels and surf-bum syntax. "But the viewer doesn't have to know any of them. You simply take it in; you just enjoy it. I made a painting. I'm not going to make an essay."

No essays are needed upstairs at the Louver. The 13 crayon drawings of his friends shown here, and the multiple oil paintings of Stanley and Boogie, his beloved dachshunds, are as if anything more real and immediate than photographs. But they still have strong links with the maelstrom of visual ideas downstairs, Hockney says. He is one of those links, of course, and this exhibition is an impressive reminder of his versatility. But the dogs, the friends and the abstract paintings also share a mood of contemplative withdrawal.

The world Hockney has been painting recently is far removed from the paradise of swimming pools and naked men he found and immortalised in the California of the 1960s. "It is in a way an internal world," he says. "And when I looked



One man and his dogs: David Hockney limits his "real world" to man's best friends, and his best friends.

at the visible world I drew and painted only the most immediate things there — my two dogs, which are always here, usually in the studio, and studies of my friends, who are sitting quite close to me. You could say that's as far as I'm going into the real world just now."

Stanley and Boogie, yapping madly, are the first to welcome any visitor to the studio in the Hollywood Hills. Hockney has to pick them up and turn them round before they waddle back to their beds beneath the scale model of the BMW, where they promptly fall asleep. This was how

he painted most of their 25 portraits, turning to a prepared easel from whatever else he happened to be doing the moment that they lay still, and then working furiously until they woke up.

It was intensive and exhausting, but a good antidote to brooding on the loss of friends. "Frankly, it was a response just for me," he says. "I could deal with something loving." Taking his cue from a biography of Cyril Connolly that he happens to be reading, he rails against Los Angeles as large for forgetting how to love life and succumbing instead to a morbid fear of death (from cigarettes as well as AIDS; a diatribe by Auberon

Waugh against Californian health fanatics is pinned to the wall in two places).

Less stridently, he admits that he seldom goes to New York nowadays because most of the friends that he used to visit there are now dead. "It makes you think," he muses. "Try and enjoy every day. The dogs do."

The drawings from the current exhibition, some of which were shown in Bradford last year, come to the Royal Academy this autumn via the Venice Biennale and the Hamburger Kunsthalle. The "very large paintings" are for sale, subject to approval of buyers by David Hockney. The paintings of Stanley and Boogie are not for sale.

THEATRE: Confusion and incoherence afflict the work of a little-known modern writer, and a long-dead one

## Scots on the rocks

The Maiden Stone  
Hampstead

THE late Peggy Ramsay was the agent of Joe Orton, David Rudkin and James Saunders, among others, and championed many dramatists whose excellence was not immediately evident to the world at large. So perhaps it is not wholly inappropriate that the first recipient of the annual award bearing her name should be this odd, inscrutable piece by the little-known Scots dramatist, Rona Munro. Somewhere behind the play's thick Celtic mists and the production's even thicker Highland accents is a bold imagination and a gift for dialogue that, who knows, might respond to some Ramsay-style nurturing and whipping-into-shape.

As it is, the play makes pretty hefty demands on most of the audience's faculties, from hearing to reason to wakefulness. We must believe that a genteel but raucous English actress called Harriet (an awkward Frances Tomelty) has come to the impoverished rural northeast of early 19th-century Scotland with her feeble husband and half-starving children in search of a public.



Carol Ann Crawford as the crone who shares her humble hotel with the heroine of Rona Munro's *The Maiden Stone*

instructs a mad girl in the art of acting and, her work apparently done, gets transformed into a statue plastered with Celtic crosses.

If the logic and meaning of her life-journey are uncertain, the happenings around her are almost more so. The Devil, or De'il, makes what may not be a guest appearance in the form of a sly vagrant somewhat unsuitably called Nick (Alexander Morton). He inveigles Harriet's husband (Paul Higgins) into kissing him on the lips, with the result that the poor man's bad cold really is the death of him. Nick is then attacked by illegitimate children dressed as animals and fathers another by the local madwoman. He also

FRIENDALL, Lovemore, Wittwood, Wellville — who are these people and how shall we tell them apart? They are dressed in Regency coats and high-waisted Empire gowns, but this is just designer nonsense. It may be pretty nonsense (courtesy of Julian McGowan's designs), but it is nonsense nonetheless, for these are characters in an obscure play by Thomas Southerne. *The Wives' Excuse* was a failure at its first production in 1691, and was unperformed for 300 years until Max Stafford-Clark revived it last year at the Swan in Stratford.

The date of composition is important, for such interest as it still retains, because the play is a link between the heartless lechery of the Restoration canon and the serious social comedy that emerged at the turn of the century.

Rakes and gallants continue to hunt maidens, and a majority of the women are still skimming to bring a man to bed, but Mrs Friendall is an exception. Married to a concomb buying his way into society with musical soirées and masquerades, she is repeatedly urged by friends to repay him in kind for his oafish infidelities. Even the older and prudish Mrs Teazell (Caroline Blackiston) is sufficiently moved to say, "Use him as he deserves. Use him as you please."

But it pleases Mrs Friendall to repel all hopeful borders and speak up for marital virtue, although she knows this resolve will bring her nothing but solitude and sorrow. Olivia Williams speaks her lines with sufficient icy fire to enliven the argument. But though Southerne gives her

## Woman of no import

The Wives' Excuse  
Barbican Pit

plenty of defiant words, the character still seems underwritten.

Perhaps he sensed that his public was disinclined to consider why a woman in society might opt for chastity, but one interesting quality that does emerge is her efforts to remain, against the temper of the time, her own woman.

The plotting is pretty chaotic, and the opening scenes are bewildering. A programme note praises the intricate marshalling of 11 key figures at the

soirée, interweaving threads of talk, but it comes before the audience knows who anyone is, and follows a scene set among footmen that is certainly innovative, but no less baffling.

What novelty there is in Southerne's play is eliminated by this transposition to the era of Jane Austen, when virtue had ceased to be unconventional. For it isn't as if the play offers much in the way of laughter, nor a sharp enough portrait of a sick society. Lesley Manville's excellent Wittwood points the bitterness seething beneath her hard brilliance.

Clive Wood makes a fine and scornful villain until the part disappears under him: revealing details pop up at all times, and the Purcell songs are delightful.

But I never found myself disturbed, nor greatly interested, in the treacherous plottings in these vanished salons.

JEREMY KINGSTON  
DONALD COOPER



Lesley Manville and Clive Wood, shining stars in the otherwise fairly black hole that is *The Wives' Excuse*

## THE TIMES Your passport to Britain's treasures

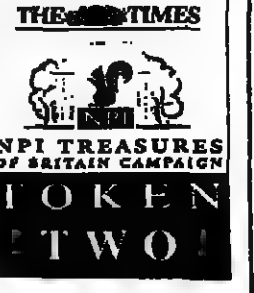


Join *The Times* on a journey through five centuries of history this summer.  
From June to September, readers will be able to visit 100 historic sites in England, Scotland and Wales at bargain prices — just collect six tokens and send off for your *Times/NPI Treasures of Britain Passport*.

Production of the passport at participating sites entitles the holder to a range of concessions, including two tickets for the price of one at most properties and free entry to over 400 English Heritage properties on the weekend of June 3/4. With the passport you will receive a pocket guide to participating Historic Houses Association and English Heritage properties.

You could for example, visit Ilington House in Dorset, pictured above, which boasts an outstanding collection of 17th-century furniture, paintings and sculptures.

Details of the offer appeared in Weekend last Saturday with an application form. Further details will appear on Saturday.





A key to the body's self-destruct mechanism □ A find in Zaire forces archaeologists to think again □ Trees could be polluting the atmosphere

EVERY cell in the body is programmed to die. While as individuals we cling doggedly to life, our cells kill themselves with abandon — wasteful as this seems.

The process, known as apoptosis, is one of the hottest topics in biology, underlying things as widely different as embryology and cancer. Hardly a week passes without a new paper on apoptosis, though scientists are still uncertain how to pronounce it. Is the middle *p* silent, or sounded? (The consensus favours the latter.)

Dr Martin Raff, of University College London, an expert in the field, says that in some cases the purpose of apoptosis is clear. "Some parts of our body are sculpted by cell death," he writes in *MRC News*. "Our hands, for instance, start out as spade-like structures and the fingers emerge as the cells between them die."

Similar processes are believed to underlie the creation of the complex architecture of the brain. But in other circumstances, it is hard to explain why so many cells

## Why our cells must perish



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

should die — hundreds of millions every hour. To maintain the balance of the body's organs, a similar number must be created — it is only in special circumstances, like the disappearance of the tadpole's tail, that cells die because they are no longer needed.

The evidence suggests that dying is the most natural thing for many cells to do, and that they stay alive only if constantly signalled to do so. "It's totally counter-intuitive," Dr Gerard Evan, of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, told a conference in Glasgow recently. "But cells in

your body are cheap, so the body bins them if they have anything wrong with them. Cancer can arise only if something suppresses cell death. It's not just about them proliferating uncontrollably — it's about them surviving uncontrollably."

The key to this process appears to lie in the cancer gene known as *p53*, which functions by suppressing the death of cells. Viruses can also pull off the same trick, turning off apoptosis in the cells they infect. This helps them because the killer cells which would normally seek out the infected cells and trigger

apoptosis can no longer do so.

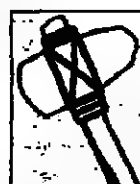
The first gene therapy experiments with *p53* have just begun at the University of Texas. It is hoped that by giving the correct version of the gene to lung cancer patients, normal apoptosis will resume and the tumours will shrink. Experiments carried out on animals are encouraging.

For several years, apoptosis has been believed to be involved in Aids, and a recent study published in *Science* may show how. One of the mysteries of HIV infection is the gradual decline of the CD4 cells, the killer cells whose job it is to fight off infection.

A team from Harvard Medical School has focused on a protein secreted by cells infected with HIV and called Tat (for transactivation protein). They found that Tat, when mixed with a culture of CD4 cells, induces apoptosis. The same happened to blood cells from uninfected donors.

This is interesting because, in Aids, only very few cells at any time are infected with HIV. This suggests that the infected cells in some way send messages to uninfected cells, inducing apoptosis. Tat may be the messenger.

## The first tools



AMERICAN archaeologists have found in Zaire what may be the oldest bone tools fashioned by man. The tools include harpoon tips and a flat dagger. A variety of dating techniques suggest they are at least 75,000 years, and possibly as many as 90,000 years, old.

This makes them about twice as old as the earliest tools from Europe, where sophisticated human behaviour is believed to have emerged about 40,000 years ago. So the history of human culture may need rewriting.

The discoveries were made by Dr John Yellen, of the US National Science Foundation, Dr Alison Brooks, of George Washington University, and colleagues, at Katanda, a site in the upper Semliki Valley in Zaire. In *Science* they report that five dating techniques all indicate the great antiquity of the tools.

The results puzzle other archaeologists, because no other ancient

human sites in Africa show the same evidence of sophisticated behaviour at such an early period. The most likely explanation, perhaps, is that the dates are wrong. Dr Yellen says, however, that it is possible that the people who went to the Semliki Valley to fish and hunt were isolated from other groups of early humans, and more advanced.

The next step is to search for the same kind of tools from other sites of comparable date.

## Leafy danger



WHEN Ronald Reagan remarked that trees could be a source of pollution, environmentalists could hardly stop laughing. But the former President could yet have the last laugh.

Two botanists from the University of Wisconsin-Madison have reported that the large amounts of a chemical called isoprene (3-methyl, 3-butadiene) produced by plants, including trees, could have

a bearing on the creation of photochemical smog.

Globally, plants produce 300 million tons of isoprene a year, and the amounts increase dramatically as temperatures rise. Doctors Thomas Sharkey and Eric Singas suggest that, in fact, isoprene acts as a kind of heat-shock molecule, protecting leaves from damage when temperatures rise above 35°C. When plants are short of water, they produce even more.

This means that the greatest amounts are likely to be produced on hot, still days — exactly the weather that produces photochemical smog in cities such as Los Angeles. Attempts to control the problem have concentrated on the reduction of unburnt hydrocarbons from cars — but this, the botanists point out in *Nature*, could be a waste of time.

If there are already large amounts of the hydrocarbon isoprene from plants in the air, reducing the amount emitted from cars may not help. It might be better to concentrate on another class of pollutant from vehicles that helps to create photochemical smog, the nitrogen oxides.

# Did the dinosaurs die in an acid bath?

In Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, buried beneath a layer of limestone one kilometre thick, lies a vast crater, a testament to a cataclysmic event 65 million years ago, when a gigantic asteroid slammed into the Earth. Scientists suspect that it is no coincidence that this event coincided with the extinction of the dinosaurs, as well as of marine reptiles, flying reptiles and ammonites.

Hundreds of explanations have been produced for the death of the dinosaurs, but a catastrophic impact is the current favourite. Speculation intensified when the crater area was found to be rich in sulphur. The asteroid impact, these sleuths suggested, might have thrown up a deadly haze of sulphuric acid capable of lingering in the atmosphere for 40 years — acidifying the oceans, blocking out sunlight and bringing the reign of the dinosaurs to a chilly end.

"The problem is that some people think the dinosaurs were dying out anyway and that the impact just wiped out the last few," says Dr Michael Warner, a seismologist at Imperial College's Royal School of Mines. "What we

A huge crater in Mexico may explain one of science's most baffling mysteries, says Anjana Ahuja

need to do is to assess the environmental effects of the impact. We need to find out if this event had a huge effect on the biosphere, and if it was capable of causing mass extinctions."

This is just what the 40-year-old Dr Warner and his colleague Dr Joanna Morgan, whom he met at Cambridge 11 years ago, aim to start doing this summer. They will travel to Mexico to investigate the Chicxulub (pronounced chih-uh-loo) crater.

Dr Morgan describes it, rather alarmingly, as "quantifying the kill mechanism". She points out that nobody really knows what chemicals were blasted into the stratosphere. For example, various calculations of how much sulphur dioxide was released by the impact differ by two orders of magnitude. "That's the difference between the dinosaurs staying alive and becoming extinct," she says.

The Chicxulub crater has

been a controversial feature on the scientific landscape since 1991, when its possible importance was first grasped. Estimates of the size of the crater run from 170km to 300km across, which makes it the biggest on the planet. The crater might or might not be encircled by a sharp ridge of material, mirroring the structure of craters seen on Venus.

The coastline bisects the crater, with half the depression lying out in the Gulf of Mexico beneath the seabed. The coastal village of Chicxulub is situated near the crater centre.

The first thing the seismologists will do is to map a cross-section of the crater to find an accurate diameter.

This will be done offshore rather than on land. "It's ten times cheaper and the data quality is better," says Dr Warner. "On land you need a Land Rover to shift the instruments every time you take a measurement. With a ship, everything is attached to the ship and trails behind. As far as accuracy is concerned, the sea tends to be more uniform than land."

A ship will navigate a straight line above the crater, towing behind it 40 high-pressure guns and an array of detectors. Every 30 metres the guns will be fired in a controlled explosion, sending sound waves in all directions. Some waves will travel downwards through the sea bed and bounce off the crater floor. These echoes will be picked up by the detectors and used to map the crater floor.

The more oblique sound waves tend not to bounce off boundaries but bend through material, with the amount of bending dependent on density

and structure. Some waves will penetrate the crater floor and travel through the rocks beneath, and will re-emerge either at sea or on land. There will be a series of detectors arranged on the peninsula to catch the echoes that arrive on land.

These oblique waves will tell the team how much of the original rock is left beneath the crater floor and therefore how much was vaporised. By comparing this to the sulphur-rich rocks surrounding the crater, and by using an accurate diameter, the scientists should be able to calculate how much sulphur was released into the atmosphere. For example, a big diameter, plus plenty of sulphurous rock, could equal mass extinction.

There is another clue to the importance of this impact. According to Dr Warner, 99 per cent of the asteroid — which could have been up to 20km across — would have vaporised, enveloping the Earth in a layer of rock. A thin, 65-million-year-old layer of the rare metal iridium has been found sandwiched between rocks at various locations on Earth, suggesting that the impact affected the global environment. The

remaining 1 per cent melted and mingled with existing rock, which is how scientists matched the iridium layer to the asteroid.

However, Dr Warner does not want to pre-empt the results or jump to conclusions. "It will be very difficult actually to prove a link, but we might be able to strengthen coincidences," he says.

Although the two British seismologists proposed the investigation, other scientists from Mexico, the United States and Canada are helping. Funding for the British contingent includes modest sums from several oil companies, and has been channelled through the Natural Environment Research Council.

The asteroid could have thrown up a deadly haze



Journalists Joanna Morgan and Michael Warner: setting off to explore the world's largest crater — and the asteroid that caused it

oil. The total stands at about £450,000. The team is trying to solicit another £50,000 to allow research students to participate.

Like all the best tales in science, this project flowered from a tiny footnote in geological history.

"The Mexicans knew about the crater in the 1970s. They just didn't realise the importance of their discovery," says Dr Warner. "They published their findings straight away, but the problem was that the paper was in Spanish and nobody read it."

"Then, in 1980, they published a half-page abstract in English. But nobody read that abstract either. The finding was not received outside Mexico until 1991, and then there was an explosion of interest."

And so we come to 1995, and the final preparations for the

first detailed investigation are in hand. Preliminary results will be out late next year. And as Dr Morgan and Dr Warner hurry off to interview a batch of potential PhD students, one can only guess at the geological treasures awaiting the lucky few.

## BACK PAIN?

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## How whales might misread a magnetic signpost

Nick Nuttall reports on the latest theory to explain the mystery of why giant mammals get stranded

EVERY few years visitors to the seaside are confronted with one of nature's saddest mysteries: a beached whale. The spectacle is as distressing as it is confounding. Why should a creature that can successfully navigate thousands of miles across the globe end up on a beach in Kent?

Theories abound. Some are outlandish, such as the suggestion that since they evolved from land-living creatures, the whales may be responding to a primordial urge to seek safety on land. Or that the animals are following ancient migration patterns which have been closed by the drift of continents or the interference of man. Or that whales enter shallow water to rest or rub their skin and end up beached.

Then there are the more scientific explanations. These include confusion in the animals' sonar systems, giving the whales false readings in shallow waters; parasites in the inner ear preventing proper reception of sonar echoes; brain infections leading to disorientation; and even interference from radar, television and radio transmissions.

Dr Margaret Klinowska, an authority on marine mammals in the department of veterinary science at Cambridge University, believes the clue to the mystery lies in the swirling magnetic fields generated by the geology of the Earth. Whales use these fields to guide them through the oceans rather than we use signposts on a motorway, she says. Normally the magnetic

fields run parallel to the coast, but in some places they run at right angles to the shore, misleading whales, which then get stranded.

"They are the equivalent of road accidents. This is why the young, the old, the sick, the healthy, singles or groups may be involved — accidents can happen to anybody," Dr Klinowska says.

She has analysed whaling records from Ireland and Scotland dating back to the 1700s, records compiled by the Natural History Museum in London of whale strandings as

far back as 1913, and geomagnetic maps from the British Geological Survey.

She noticed that bays which in the past were good "driving bays" for whale hunters — where they would corner their prey — such as Weisdale Voe in Shetland, Linga Sound in Orkney and Brandon Bay in southern Ireland, are those where whales are likely to get stranded (more than 400 since 1913). They are also sites where the geomagnetic field lines run onshore.

"It is at places where magnetic contour lines are perpen-

dicular to the coast that all the live strandings occur in Britain," says Dr Klinowska. In contrast, bodies of dead whales seem to be washed up randomly around the coast.

Last December 11 killer whales ended up beached at Uyea Sound on the island of Unst in Shetland. The sound is not only one of the old whaling bays but has exactly the kind of geomagnetic patterns along which whales might unwittingly travel. These ones were eventually coaxed back to sea.

Dr Klinowska suspects that whales, dolphins and porpoises learn the geomagnetic map from their mothers during their early months of life. Species that live inshore, such as harbour porpoises, may be

more familiar with the pitfalls of the inshore field than species, such as killer whales, which live further out at sea.

She also thinks that whales may have a biological travel clock which is reset in their morning by small fluctuations in the magnetic field. By knowing how fast and for how long they have travelled, they know where they are in this world each day. But impacts such as the solar wind on the atmosphere can affect the magnetic field and may mask the morning cue, creating confusion about where they are.

"Small fluctuations to the magnetic field happen every day and if these are obliterated, the whales get disorientated and swim too far in," Dr Klinowska says.



A stranded whale: analysis of whaling records, some of which date back to the 1700s, as well as geomagnetic maps, have produced some intriguing findings

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# Creative cred on the road to stardom

Giles Coren on the rock magazines that can create 'stars' before they release a record

On the front cover of *Melody Maker* this week you will not find Madonna. Jon Bon Jovi or The Artist Formerly Known As Prince — the sort of faces that are reproduced to boost sales of less hip pamphlets of popular culture — but a dopey-looking teenager with overlong sideburns and a cheap shirt, who appears to be called Marion.

He is not, in fact, called Marion at all. He is Jaime (pronounced Jamie), the 19-year-old lead-singer of a band called Marion who sound, according to *MM*, "like Suede with Peter Hook on bass and the Buzzcocks making a brilliant racket in the room next door". Jaime is, apparently, "kill-the-bastard beautiful", hence the comment of one teenage fan: "They make music for kissing the back of your boyfriend's neck to."

Despite this familiarly overwrought stuff, which is unlikely to set post-pubescent hearts and feet on fire, Marion are nonetheless a pop group. And pop music is worth billions of pounds — the most successful leisure industry of all. To be a part of it, however small, brings you closer to immense wealth and world fame than your average quotidian employment. Marion are at the beginning. The end is either obscenely lucrative Rolling Stones-style world tours, a spurious parochial credibility not matched by noughts on the end of the monthly statement, or, quite possibly, nothing at all.

Their first single made little impression outside their own bedrooms, their second goes on sale this week, and they are currently engaged on a tour of small venues in the North of England. And yet, there they are on the front of *Melody Maker* — where Suede, Oasis, and the Stone Roses have been before them. It is generally acknowledged that a cover story in the British music press constitutes the first big step on the escalator to stardom. But how much does it really help?

"We put Suede on the cover before they had even had a single out," says Paul Lester, *MM*'s features editor, "and when their record came out the following week it sold out immediately. We did the same for the Stone Roses, The Happy Mondays, Blur, Oasis — some of the biggest names of the last five or six years all charmed the week after we had them on the cover."

"More recently the same has happened with Sleeper, Portishead, Supergrass, Menswear and the Boo Radleys. This is the first move in that triple whammy of press, radio and television that is the key to success. If we put them on the cover it galvanizes radio interest and starts the ball rolling."

PR guru Phil Savidge, "who is responsible for such recent successes as Elastica and Echobelly, as well as Suede, concurs. "Getting a cover is incredibly important. When Suede were on they were worried that they weren't ready — they hadn't even made a single yet — and that people up North would think 'who are these southern ponies?' But people came to see

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"We do not require them to have great careers, just to be sexy that week"

and they were away. Occasionally there are mistakes. I might try and get people to go and see a new band and then there are just a lot of folded arms and shaking heads at the back of the room. With Marion I went into *Melody Maker* with some tapes and they were impressed. Now they will make the top 40, and their first headline London show [at Astoria II on Friday] might well be a sell-out."

This is not about intergalactic megastardom. That is the realm of publications such as *Smash Hits*, which sells 400,000 copies per week (compared with *MM*'s 60,000) and feature clean-cut soulless pretty boys, such as 'Take That, who sit atop the charts for week after boring week. *MM* is all about the bands who make claims for creative credibility: they are alternative or 'indie' (independent) bands, they are Britpop. "Anyone you see on *Top of the Pops* who has long hair, a Fender Stratocaster, and looks like he is on drugs is probably one of ours," Lester says.

"This stuff does cross over into the real world, and I suppose that if Marion develop a universal appeal, it might be as a new U2. In the way

that Blur are said to be the new Beatles because there are four of them, or that Oasis are the new Stones because they are scruffy and upset your parents. The moment they make that crossover, we lose interest in them. They become someone else's job."

"The days of a band like this going on for ever are over. The Smiths lasted from 1983-87, but no one will make a niche like New Order or Tang in there like Dylan or Elvis Costello. That is our concern at *MM*. We hope they die a death. We do not require them to have great careers, we just require them to be sexy that week." He talks of Ned's Atomic Dustbin, the Butthole Surfers and Raymond, and I understand.

And what of Marion? Do they feel like made men? "Of course we're chuffed," says manager Joe Moss. "There is nothing cooler than being on the front of *Melody Maker* — it's a stepping stone in the quest for popularity. But the band's first ambition is to make good records and be good on stage."

So these grungey young individ-

uals are not interested in the potential fortunes that may be waiting in the aftermath of the cover story? "Of course they are," says Lester. "All 19-year-old indie bands say they just want to play their guitars, and that they do it because they couldn't do anything else. Of course they could. They could work in a shop or in a pub."

"They are just lucky to be able to stand on stage like some sexily-attired chairman for a few months and call it a job. They all say 'if people don't like them they will be back at Exeter Poly or wherever they came from. And it is our job, if they are any good, to see that people do like them.'"

And is there real money at the end of all this? "Well, Blur are reportedly about to have £4 million dropped in their laps, not to mention the million albums they have just sold, but I saw Alex [from Blur] at the Elastica party the other day and I still had to buy him a drink. So he is either extremely tight or he has not had any money after all."

Well, at least he got to play his guitar.

Julia Llewellyn Smith examines an urban phenomenon

## High-flyers who pedal their way to power

When Norman Tebbit told us to get on our bikes, nobody was meant to take him literally. High-flyers don't use their thigh muscles; they sit in the back of chauffeur-driven limos, braying down the car phone, or cruise along in company saloons, quietly switching from *Yesterday in Parliament* to the Chris Tarrant show.

Nobody ever told this to Jenny Bacon. The new Director-General of the Health and Safety Executive, and one of only three women to hold the post of Permanent Secretary, Miss Bacon, 50, has been cycling to work since she arrived in London from New Hall, Cambridge. "I never got off my bike, so to speak, and in those days, cycling in London was quite pleasurable. I had my college number on the back of the mudguard and policemen would know you were a suitable sort of person."

Miss Bacon is one of a small but dedicated band of cyclists, who choose to push their pedals every morning, not for environmental or health reasons, but, quite simply, because it is the most efficient method they know of getting about London. Her new position comes with a company car; she refused it. "Cycling is quicker for any journey of up to ten miles, unless it's the dead of night and you're speeding like a maniac," says Miss Bacon, who whizzes the four or so miles from her home in Islington to Southwark Bridge in every kind of weather. "It's best of all when it's snowing. Then you really do leave everybody standing."

Many high-flyers get bitten by the cycling bug at Oxford or Cambridge. In Cambridge 27 per cent of journeys are made by bike, compared with a national average of 2.5 per cent. Many dons, such as Sir Keith Thomas, the President of Corpus Christi, Oxford, have never learnt to drive. Others simply agree with Miss Bacon that sitting in traffic is a waste of time. Many cyclists are so busy once they get to work that they have no time to discuss their method of commuting.

Sir Richard Scott trundles back and forth from his eponymous inquiry on a bicycle that would look too old-fashioned even for Miss Marple. "He receives many, many calls about his cycling, but he will not talk about it," says his spokesman. "It's a convenient means of transport and exercise."

Another keen two-wheeler is Lord Woolf. His secretary says: "He does it because he can time exactly how long it takes to get anywhere."

Improved fitness may be a bonus, but few become bikers for this reason. "On the contrary," says another law lord, Lord Hoffmann, who was inspired to become a cyclist after working on a case in Amsterdam. "The chances of getting choked to death by gases or run over by a lorry far outweigh the health advantages. How else would I get around?"

Jon Snow, the Channel 4 newsreader, admits that he risks his life as he pedals around London from interview to interview. "Everybody's out to kill you. I have some sort of escape at least once a week. I was knocked off at the Labour Party conference and landed on my waller, which left an imprint in my buttocks for weeks." Even if you survive, the

bicycle may not. "I have twice had it removed from outside the House of Commons. The police are very wary of bombs and can cut their way through any lock, without warning."

Nonetheless, Snow is sticking to his saddle. "Cycling is phenomenally helpful for meeting deadlines. I can emerge from an interview with John Major at 6.35 and be back at the ITN studio at Gray's Inn Road perfectly comfortably by 7 o'clock. I can guarantee that it will only take me nine minutes."

There are limits, however, to these mad dashes. "I will go to the

Gary Waller, MP, the secretary of the all-party cycling group, says he thinks that many MPs will not use a bicycle for the same reason. "One has to be very well organised to keep changing into the appropriate gear."

The former deputy governor of the Bank of England, Rupert Penman-Rea, whose successor, Howard Davies, is also a notorious cyclist, used to forget to remove his bicycle clips, according to his former lover Mary Ellen Synon. She forgave him: "It was a tribute to my simple nature that I was not put off [by the clips]," she wrote in the *Evening Standard*.

Those for whom Lycra shorts hold no peril may be heartened to know that Colin Harris, an insurance broker who runs his business from Baildon, near Bradford, recently obtained tax relief on his mountain bike, which he uses to travel to meetings with clients. His local tax office agreed that it could count as capital equipment, with the usual annual 25 per cent depreciation allowance available.

Mr Harris's advantage is that he is the boss. Employees provided with bikes by their firms may find they have acquired a taxable perk. If they use them for anything but business. The number of people prepared to share the road with taxis, juggernauts and Belgian tourists ("Belgians are appalling as far as cyclists are concerned," Miss Bacon assures me) is likely to remain a go-getting few. "The number of cyclists in the House of Commons goes into double figures — I think," says Mr Waller, somewhat shamefacedly. "As soon as ministers get a chance to use a ministerial car they forget all about it."



Jenny Bacon on her way to work (above left), Jon Snow, the newsreader (top right) and Sir Richard Scott (above right)

Once you've found the house of your dreams, the mortgage details pale into insignificance — until too late

## First-time buyers beware your nesting frenzy

ALL KINDS of old ghosts started clanking their money-boxes and groaning like Jacob Marley when the Office of Fair Trading pointed its palsied finger at the endowment mortgage trade. Most of us can supply some chilling anecdote of our first buy: the people we dealt with, the lines of patter they gave us, the burn steer they sold us. Glib, they were, and bearing modern snake-oil merchants whose skill lies in selling intricate investment packages to people whose minds are on curtain fabric. First-time buyers: nest-builders, saps.

Our particular ghost, much cringed over as we read about Sir Bryan Carsberg's attempt to go through the trade with bell, book and candle, was

that of a "mortgage broker" back in the credit-squeezed years of the late Seventies. Mortgages were hard to come by, you crawled to building societies, saved with them, and got turned down. So you went to a chap who claimed to be able to get mortgages for virtually anyone. Even (in those days, this was the big-time) heady stuff like 80 per cent mortgages.

We were desperate for a flat; we had seen one with honey-

suckle up its balcony. So we sat humbly while he sold us an endowment mortgage: a pup so monstrous that it took us two years to work out its awfulness and cash it in. We also let him lay down which surveyor and solicitor we should use; it never dawned on us that this was, even in his merry unregulated trade, not within his power. Eventually we paid off the whole coven, and felt quite grateful that they did not insist on selling us the paint and carpets, too.

Yet we were not babes in arms. We were nearly thirty, for heaven's sake, and one of us worked on consumer TV. Looking back it is obvious what happened. We were in a heightened state, crazed by impending house-ownership. We only wanted to know two things: how much per month, and can we be in by Christmas? We blanked out everything else because we had already redesigned the kitchenette. We were putty in his hands.

And, whatever the Council of Mortgage Lenders has to say about it (which, broadly paraphrased, is "Bah, hum-

bug"), it is probably time to go along with Sir Bryan and protect such human putty. Because, with a few cold-blooded exceptions, every first-time buyer (especially when they come in couples, cooing) is blind to reason and knows only two questions: how much per month, and when? The hunger for a first home is too primevally urgent for reason. Which is why the media have no trouble finding any number of depressed, deceived, negative-equity, ripped-off owners of duff financial packages. Buyers just cannot be aware, not in the grip of nesting frenzy, or Pre-Contract Stress Syndrome. How much? How quick? Thank you, Mr Marley, for all your help!

I suppose the root of the problem is that deep down we still think in terms of rent. In a rent deal, the two questions



LIBBY PURVES

"We were putty in the broker's hands"

are adequate: it is only in the context of lifetime debt that they are not. It is natural that we should think in terms of rent until a very few years ago it was the norm. In 1914, 90 per cent of Britons lived in private rented accommodation; by the mid-Fifties two-thirds still did; at the beginning of the 1980s, two-fifths. But the council house sales and the fear of "the ladder" made us buy and buy, and destroy the reasonable idea that you can pay your rent and call no man

creditor. In prosperous Germany and Switzerland, it is still entirely the norm for the middle classes to rent all their lives, and do their saving elsewhere. Parisian couples think nothing of it. Nor has our mortgage culture and discouragement of private landlords done us a lot of

good. You could even claim that we have been so haggard and preoccupied with granny-flats and stone cladding that we have failed to look after the wider interests of the community: we have invested in cottages instead of industries and jobs. We have saddled ourselves with silly debt, and some have died of it.

SOME WILL trumpet that owner-occupation brings stability, a stake in the country, the fabled contentment of Mrs Thatcher's "property-owning democracy". Yet who epitomises that better than Mr Potter, in *The Diary of a Nobody*, 1892? "I am always in of an evening... there is always something to be done: a tin-bath here, a venetian blind to put straight, a fan to nail up or part of a carpet to nail down, while Carrie is not above putting a button on a shirt, or mending a pillow-case, or practising the Sylvia Gavotte on our new cottage piano..."

But Potter — rooted, Tory, and reassuringly boring — only rented The Laurels. It is not until the last lines of the book that Mr Perkupp presents him with the freehold, as a bonus. Blast the man: Perkupp, clearly, is where the rot set in. Blame Perkupp for all us young fools, gazing into the ferret eyes of mortgage merchants and signing our lives away.

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## Matthew Parris



■ Yes, selling bogus titles is a grave matter, even if no one is hurt, but don't you see the irony, m'lud?

Do you ever wrestle with the desire to laugh when you know you shouldn't? In Court 11 at Southwark Crown Court last Thursday morning, a whole roomful of us were wrestling.

You may have seen the case reported. Two young tricksters, Mr Lewis and Mr Kollakis, were pleading guilty to selling bogus "lordships of the manor" to Americans. Unaware that the case would become a media event, I turned up because a friend was representing one of the accused.

The case was widely reported, and I will not repeat press accounts. Suffice it to say that the two rogues had constructed a most elaborate web, using extensive research, forged "certificates" with red wax seals, the forged signature of Lord Denning, Swiss bank accounts, a bogus "Institution of Heraldry" (they created it themselves) and a fictional company of solicitors.

They flew back and forth in Concorde to America, advertising in *The Wall Street Journal* and tricking unknown numbers of would-be lords of the manor. They sold famous titles like "The Lord of Bodardle" and "Lord Bradley in the Moors", under the name of "The Queen's Social List", and the right to ride "in the 18th carriage" at the Queen Mother's birthday celebrations.

Mr Lewis statutorily adopted a new name, "Lord Lewis of Godington". They had set up companies with names like "Willard, Penderly & Co, Purveyors to the Aristocracy" and the Latin motto *via semper est*. One poor American, Mr Schnepfer, had bought (or thought he had) the lordship of Bodardle. One wonders how many other Americans, too embarrassed to come forward, have been similarly tricked.

It is pointless trying to be funny about the case. A simple transcript of the prosecuting counsel's speech achieves a hilarity no humorous columnist could match. It was presented with skill, the Crown Prosecutor treading carefully the fine line between pomposity and flippancy, and keeping a faint smile just tugging at the corner of Judge Levy's dignified countenance. Everyone else, including the accused, were frankly in stitches.

So for humour, just read the evidence. A more serious thought nagged at this observer. Here was a modern Molière in laughing at what these two impostors had done to some American Bourgeois Gentlemen, was Southwark Crown Court not laughing at itself? A ceremonial sword lay upon the clerk's table. Until it was brandished as one of the ludicrous props with which the accused had impressed

clients, I thought it was part of British courtroom procedure, like the Commons mace.

The court giggled as we were told that Mr Schnepfer had been assured that with the lordship of Bodardle went the right to wear heraldic robes and Mrs Schnepfer's right to be called "The Lady Bodardle". Relaying this, the prosecuting counsel, bewigged and robed, addressed the robed and bewigged Judge Levy, QC, as "Your Honour". Behind, on the courtroom wall, stood the royal lion and unicorn. Can anyone miss the irony?

Much was made of the fact that the lordships of the manor and a pretend one? Are all titles not pretend? What is a "genuine" title but a set of ludicrous conventions pretending to set one man above another?

What harm would have been done if the Americans who were tricked had continued to think their titles "real"? Doesn't thinking a title real make it real? To title real paraphrase Peter Pan, every time a child says "I don't believe in aristocracy", a peer dies. It seems a little mean of us to spoil Mr and Mrs Schnepfer's fun by taking away from them a harmless belief which did not deprive another living soul of a thing. Were you or I the poorer because somebody in America believed he was the Lord of Bodardle? The Schnepfers had been happier, the accused richer, and nobody over here deprived of a thing. Only by blowing the whistle, as we were now doing, was anyone hurt.

By making up titles and selling them, the accused had only carried to the point of absurdity the crackpot logic of social pedigree. In this, Lloyd George left modern fraudsters standing. Why, the OBE was invented to swell Liberal Party coffers. It was very jolly to learn that Lewis had met Kollakis when they were undergraduates at... yes! Buckingham — Britain's first private university. These were the ultimate Thatcherisms. If I had my way they would both be made hereditary peers in the next honours list. And here's an opportunity for an enterprising British Government: why not create lordships of the manor — legitimately — to sell to Americans?

As the court adjourned, all rose and bowed to the judge. Kollakis drove a white BMW with his initials on the number plate, the court had been told. His defence counsel left Southwark in his own white BMW, with the first three letters of his own surname on the number plate.

I thought the sword was part of courtroom ceremony, like the Commons mace.

There is some good news for Andrew Parker Bowles on the

who is still a Cantons fan, applauds the strike's decision last week to stay with Manchester United. "The worst thing that could have happened in my opinion would have been for him to have left the club," he says ardently.

There is some good news for Andrew Parker Bowles on the

Can I have a refund? Mr Nice has gone all Mr Nasty

Not only has the nation preserved a treasure in the Churchill papers — it has got a bargain too

# Just as Winston would have wished

After I left *The Times* in 1981 I spent ten years of my life as an antiquarian bookseller, among other jobs. It is a delightful occupation: book collectors tend to be likeable people, book dealers are very friendly competitors, the books are always interesting, and one occasionally has the excitement of finding a bargain. I discovered the only glass known to have been engraved by William Blake and a joking letter written by John Locke while still at Westminster School. In my time, Pickering & Chatto, one of the old London firms, sold a First Folio of Shakespeare, a first edition of Thomas More's *Utopia* and a first edition of Newton's *Principia*, so I had the thrill of the temporary ownership of great books. The only trouble with being an antiquarian bookseller is that you cannot sell the same book twice, which makes it rather more difficult to turn a regular profit.

I have looked at the sale of the Churchill archive from the rather specialist point of view of the rare book trade. The first question is whether the valuation was right. Had the Churchill Trust been paid too high a price, or had the State, in return for the lottery money, got a bargain? There were, in fact, two valuations, one of £40 million done for the Churchill trustees by Sotheby's and another of £32.5 million done by Bernard Quaritch for the Heritage Fund, whose chairman is Lord Rothschild. Quaritch, along with Maggs in Berkeley Square, is the leading rare bookseller. Sotheby's, along with Christie's, is the leading book auctioneer.

It is hard to put a value on so vast an archive, stretching over 60 or more historic years and including something like a million and a half pages of material. The leading professional valuers reached similar conclusions. I imagine that the Sotheby's valuation would have been fairly close to the reserve price at auction; such an archive, sold to best advantage over a period of time, could obviously have gone much higher than that. If a sale had happened, it would have been the manuscript sale of the century.

Quaritch was fully conscious of the historic nature of the task that it was set. A team from his staff was involved in the valuation over a period of time. Martin Gilbert, Winston Churchill's official biographer, has described the archive, which he knows far better than anyone else, as "the richest single archive in 20th-century British history". Judged either by quantity or quality, there is nothing like it.

How did the price come down from the £32.5 million of the Quaritch valuation to the £11.5 million paid out of National Lottery funds by the Heritage Fund? First of all the valuation was reduced by £10 million to take account of the papers which might be regarded as official rather than private. This is an area in which the law is very doubtful. Do the manuscript notes for a House of Commons speech belong to the Prime Minister or to the State? Historically, most Prime Ministers have kept them as their own property, but such notes can be regarded as part of the official function. What then about a party conference speech, which is a party

matter, with which civil servants are not allowed to assist? Whatever the legal position, £10 million was knocked off, leaving £22.5 million. There was a further discount of £10 million to allow for tax. So the total sum, based on a valuation done for the State and not for the family, came down to £12.5 million. John Paul Getty II, who himself has a library worthy of the Medici, gave £1 million, and the Lottery Fund provided the remaining £11.5 million.

The British State cannot be thought

William Rees-Mogg

to have done badly out of this transaction. Winston Churchill devoted his life to public service, not to making money — without him, in 1940, we would probably have made an ignominious peace with Hitler. He was never a rich man, though he was an extravagant one; he always had to earn his living by the pen. He left this archive, quite deliberately, as a patrimony for his male heirs — perhaps an old-fashioned preference, but very understandable in the grandson of a Victorian duke. He himself refused a dukedom

because he thought his son, Randolph, would never have the money to support it.

The family trust has now decided to claim its inheritance. Sold on the open market, the Churchill archive would very possibly have fetched something over £50 million; if one thought that each piece of paper in the archive would fetch £100 — by no means a ridiculous estimate — the whole might have sold for £150 million. In the event, the family trust took £12.5 million, and the lottery money actually contributed only £11.5 million. Not a bad deal, even for a Rothschild.

There is no doubt that the private papers belonged to the trust. I think that most of the "official" papers probably belonged to the trust as well. The family had the right to sell the archive, just as families which inherit a brave man's Victoria Cross have the right to sell his medals. Of course, Lord Rothschild had to satisfy himself that the Heritage Fund was not paying too much, but the facts show that the fund was in fact getting a bargain. There has been a great fuss. For some reason it is not thought quite proper for the State to buy the archive, or for the present Winston Churchill to benefit from the sale. Yet it is clear that this is the family property, intended by Sir Winston to provide the patrimony he would not other-

wise have been able to leave. When the surviving three Beatles die, their heirs may well go to Sotheby's and auction their manuscripts. Perhaps the Heritage Fund of the day will feel that these manuscripts are important enough to be bought for a national collection. Would there be something wrong with that?

The alternative was intolerable. This archive represents the long life of the greatest British statesman of the 20th century. He was the last man of our nation to play such a central role in world history, and it cannot ever happen again in a similar way. His correspondence illuminates events from the Boer War to the Suez War, including the two world wars, in the second of which his was a decisive role. He had leading friends in many parts of the world, particularly the United States. This archive touches the history of many nations other than our own. To allow it to be dispersed would have been a national failure of nerve.

I suppose one could turn the criticism against young Winston Churchill (no longer so young) or against the trustees, but I do not feel inclined to do so. In an earlier age, things would have been done differently. Sir Winston's ancestor, the great Duke of Marlborough, was given Blenheim for saving the nation. I myself no more grudge the Churchill family the £12.5 million they have received for their archives than I grudge the lottery winners similar sums, or the grandchildren of Harold Macmillan the £200 million they are said to be receiving for their family publishing business. I am proud to be able to remember hearing Sir Winston Churchill address the House of Commons, am gratified that his heirs should have sold their property to their own satisfaction and am delighted that the nation has gained such a glorious bargain.

## New Labour, new enemy

The Tories must come to terms with Blair's changes, says Peter Riddell



The Tories do not know what to make of Tony Blair. As a general rule, most politicians neither know nor understand their opponents. They view them through partisan blinkers. But in Mr Blair's case, it is worse. The Tories keep missing the target. Mr Blair is no miracle worker, and Labour remains vulnerable in several areas. But unless the Tories grasp what he is trying to do, they will not even begin to pull back the political initiative.

Their attacks over the weekend were a mixture of bluster and muddle. To dismiss Saturday's debate on Clause Four as "a charade" or "a pantomime", as Jeremy Hanley did, is merely inane, on a par with the patronisingly stupid comments of some MPs about "Bambi" or "the boy Blair". Michael Heseltine's increasingly self-righteous bombast was little more convincing and sounded as out-of-date as several union leaders themselves did on Saturday. He couldn't decide whether Mr Blair had abandoned all of his previous beliefs or whether nothing had really changed.

The Conservatives have been confused over Clause Four. After saying for years that the retention of the 1918 version undermined Labour claims about a mixed economy, the line changed abruptly last October when Mr Blair unveiled his plan. Ministers then said that dropping the old clause was merely a public relations stunt. What Saturday's vote means in policy terms is still unclear, but the Tories are making a big error if they underestimate the change in Labour's power structure.

Mr Blair has an almost brutal determination to shake up his party.

He believes that Labour's election losses show it has not changed enough, that in effect a new party has to be created. This is already happening, with an increase in membership of a third over the past year.

There are fascinating parallels with Hugh Gaitskill's speech in November 1959, launching his doomed attempt to rewrite Clause Four. Both leaders accepted the mistake of regarding public ownership as an end in itself. They shared the same values. But Gaitskill was more rooted in Labour traditions, both in his complacency about the unions, upon whom he depended for support against constituency activists, and in his emphasis on equality and economic planning. Mr Blair has gone further in abandoning the politics of class.

The Clause Four campaign has symbolised this drive, not just in

the new, and inevitably vague, wording, but in the process of winning support for change. Initially, John Prescott and Robin Cook were dubious, fearing that the attempt would divide the party. But through extensive consultation, Mr Blair has mobilised party members, including a revived youth section. For the first time in history, a Labour leader has won a big vote thanks to individual members in the constituencies (by a 9-1 margin) in defiance of the two largest unions.

So the Tories' talk of Mr Blair doing deals with the unions is ludicrously misplaced, as was clear to those of us present on Saturday. The union leaders were shown to be paper tigers. Not only was Arthur Scargill given a slow handclap, but

there was the unprecedented sight of Bill Morris, the leader of the once unquestioned transport workers, being criticised for not holding a ballot by a constituency delegate from Islington North, once the heartland of traditional socialism. The union case against change was fatally weakened by the absence of such ballots. The balance of power has shifted, and will shift further against the union block votes.

The real question now is not whether Mr Blair is genuine, but how far Labour policy will alter. Before the Clause Four vote, most leaders' speeches were thin on content. The party does not need a long shopping-list of detailed pledges. After all, Kenneth Clarke is sensibly cautious about tax cuts this November, let alone two years after the election.

What matters more is the general

direction of Labour policy. A torrent of statements is promised, starting today with a speech from Gordon Brown proclaiming Labour as the party of competition and the consumer. Further speeches, including the Mait Lecture on economic policy by Mr Blair in three weeks, will lead up to an economic statement in July. Gaps will also be filled on schools, regional government and pensions.

Many questions still have to be answered, notably how far the structure of the health service and of schools would be changed, how the public utilities would be regulated (far more important than their ownership), and about the broad structure of taxes and spending.

Douglas Hurd was on firmer ground for the Tories on Friday in asking whether Labour's sums will add up. There is still also a debate about Mr Blair's pro-European stance — and whether he will propose a referendum. Several Shadow Cabinet members remain hostile to a single currency. The implications for the rest of Britain of the proposals for an elected Scottish parliament have still to be addressed.

Tricky issues also remain about relations with the unions. On Saturday, for example, there were differences of emphasis and enthusiasm between Mr Blair and Mr Prescott over a statutory minimum wage, while the deputy leader worried some of the leaders' allies with his unqualified pledge to end compulsory competitive tenders. And the Shadow Cabinet itself is also patchy; the inadequacies of some members will be shown up under closer scrutiny.

So there is therefore no shortage of ammunition for the Tories. But if they attempt to refight the battles of 1992, let alone those of earlier elections, they will certainly lose. On Saturday, Mr Blair escaped the straitjackets of both Clause Four and the union bosses. He now has flexibility to set his party's agenda. The Conservatives will now have to abandon their trenches and fight a war of manoeuvre. They have not yet shown they appreciate that the battlefield has changed.

## On the ball

CLOSE ASSOCIATION with the Manchester United football star Eric Cantona can be a painful business. The brave publishing house in Manchester that reprinted the emotional Frenchman's deepest thoughts, *La Philosophie de Cantona*, containing such profound considerations as "football is the most beautiful of the arts", found that it too had been drop-kicked, metaphorically speaking. Ringpull Press had to call in receivers earlier this month after running into financial difficulties when the book's first print-run had to be recalled because Hodder Headline accused it of replicating material found in its own title, *Cantona: My Story*. But despite declaring itself bankrupt, Ringpull has been revived. Fourth Estate, the London-based publisher, has invited Ringpull's founder, Steve Powell, to join as an editor and set up an office in Manchester. A spokeswoman at Fourth Estate says: "In spite of recent events we really want to keep the Ringpull name alive, and we have taken on six of their titles." There are wrinkles to be yet ironed out, Ringpull's letterhead says "no fixed abode". But Powell,

who is still a Cantona fan, applauds the strike's decision last week to stay with Manchester United. "The worst thing that could have happened in my opinion would have been for him to have left the club," he says ardently.

There is some good news for Andrew Parker Bowles on the

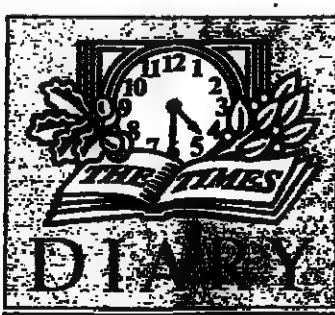
Can I have a refund? Mr Nice has gone all Mr Nasty

marital front: his nephew Charles Paravicini, 26, is to tie the knot. The son of Parker Bowles's sister, Mary Ann, and great-grandson of Somerset Maugham, Charles, who is an art broker, is to wed 25-year-old Lucia Laurie, a Montessori teacher, in December. Just which members of the clan will be invited has yet to be finalised.

### Fancy dress

JOAN SUTHERLAND fans packed Sotheby's for a sale of her costumes earlier this year, and Karen Taylor bought two. "I was thrilled because they were designed by Franco Zeffirelli for *La Traviata*," says the diva's admirer. But when Taylor accepted Zeffirelli after a lecture at the Royal Geographical Society and asked him to sign her catalogue, he examined the illustrations and said that he had not designed the costumes. "He was categorical, and I missed the chance to buy anything else. I am very unhappy. Sotheby's say they catalogued the costumes using Joan Sutherland's information, but it was thirty years ago that she wore these costumes."

A Sotheby's press officer said: "The matter is being looked into, but under the terms of our guarantee if we have miscatalogued, the



purchaser is entitled to her money back." Taylor has decided to conduct her own research, however. "I am paying the archivist at the Royal Opera House to check the history of the costumes," she says sternly.

### Greek to me

FURTHER TO my note about Christopher Lee's forays into opera at the forthcoming Covent Garden Festival, I learn that the great screen Dracula has been moonlighting as a schoolmaster. In his latest film, *A Feast of Midnight*, which opens later this month, Lee plays a classics teacher, a part for which he is eminently suited.

"I was a classics scholar at Wellington, so I knew what I was doing," he says. "The boys in the cast were normal schoolboys, including

a couple from my prep school, Summer Fields, and I was able to help them with their Greek homework when we weren't filming."

### Deadly masks

WITH VE-DAY approaching, military experts are warning that one of the great lifesavers of 50 years ago could now be a killer. Many of the standard-issue gas-masks being dug out from dusty attics contain that modern scourge — asbestos. The Imperial War Museum has been advising that re-enactments of air-raid drills or other clowning with the masks should be discouraged. "The ones we have here for children to try on have had the asbestos sealed off with resin to make them safe."

The news came as a shock to Lord Bramall, the former Chief of the Defence Staff and veteran of the D-Day landings. "I am very surprised," he exclaims. "If everyone who ever wore a gas mask is going to sue the Government..."

So timid has the BBC become in the wake of the furore surrounding Panorama's interview with John Major that its coverage of Labour's Clause Four conference on Saturday seemed determined to be a Blair-free zone. Only a couple of



Get your goat: a small new fashion accessory

sentences of the Labour leader's opening speech were shown. When he came back to the rostrum for an impromptu speech after the vote, the producers cut him off in mid-sentence.

### No butts

FORGET the Vietnamese pot-bellied pig or the shih-tzu. The fashionable animal to possess now is the pygmy goat. According to the Pygmy Goat Club, sales have dou-

bled in the past two years. "I have sold all my kids even before they are born," says a representative proudly. "Even Earl Spencer has made some inquiries recently." A sturdy 4ft fence is required to thwart their energetic jumping ability, but otherwise the goats are quite happy to live in town as long as they have a small back garden for exercise. Milking is optional but pygmy goats can provide up to a pint a day.

P.H.S

هكذا من الأصل





Yours faithfully,  
T. E. WESTON.  
Thornlea,  
Pixey Green,  
Stradbroke, near Eye, Suffolk.  
April 27.





## COURT CIRCULAR

## WINDSOR CASTLE

April 29: The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon attended the Rugby Football League Challenge Cup Final at Wembley Stadium, Middlesex.

Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis was in attendance.

April 30: The Duke of Edinburgh, President, World Wide Fund for Nature - WWF International, this afternoon addressed the Second Session of the Summit on Religion and Conservation at St George's House, Windsor Castle, and attended a Dinner in the Guildhall, Windsor.

## KENSINGTON PALACE

April 29: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief The Royal Anglian Regiment, today presented New Colours to the 1st and 2nd

Battalions at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford. Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire (Mr James Crowden).

Mrs Charles Vyvyan and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick were in attendance.

## THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

April 30: Princess Alexandra this evening attended the Malcolm Sargent Centenary Gala Concert at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7.

The Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

## ST JAMES'S PALACE

April 29: The Prince of Wales was represented by Dr Anil Seal at the Memorial Service for Dr Robert Robson, which was held in Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge.

## Memorial services

## Miss Kathleen Marguerite Lea

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Miss Kathleen Marguerite Lea, a former Vice-Principal of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, was held on Saturday in the college chapel. The Rev Dr Allan Dogg officiated. Professor Anne Hudson and Miss Hilda Pipe read the lessons. Dr Nicholas Shrimpton read from Kate Lea's 1981 edition of *Edward Fairfax, Godfrey of Bulloigne (1600)* and Dr Frances Lannon, Vice-Principal, read George Herbert's *Constancy*. Miss Elizabeth Mackenzie gave an address. The Principal of Lady Margaret Hall attended.

## Mr Harry Edwards

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Harry Edwards, a former Housemaster of Clifton College, Headmaster of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, and Chairman of St George's Music Trust, Bristol, was held on Saturday in Clifton College Chapel. The Rev P.W. Dill officiated, assisted by Canon W.H. Thomson-Glover. Mr Ben Ridder read the lesson and Miss Patricia Routledge read from the book *William Penn*. Mr Philip Polack

and Mr Stuart Andrews gave addresses. Clifton College and Queen Elizabeth's Hospital combined choirs sang.

## Mr Godfrey Brown

A memorial service for Mr A.G.K. Brown, Olympic athlete and former Headmaster of Worcester Royal Grammar School, was held on Saturday in Worcester Cathedral. Canon Derek Tansill officiated. The Archdeacon of Worcester gave a welcome. Mr Daniel Brown, grandson, read the lesson. Dr John Brown, son, read *The Lake Isle of Innisfree* by W.B. Yeats. Sir Ralph Kilner Brown, brother, Mr Norris McWhirter and Mr Anthony R. Wheeler gave addresses.

## Dr Robert Robson

A memorial service for Dr Robert Robson, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, was held on Saturday in the college chapel. The Rev Dr Arnold Browne, assisted by the Rev Anne Stevens, officiated. Dr Richard Glauert read the lesson. Don Robert Atwell, OBE, gave an address. Sir Michael Ayrton, OM, Master of Trinity College, was present.

## Nature notes



The swift: speeding and screaming over rooftops

THE air is full of day-old insects and birds are feeding on them avidly. A sedge warbler singing on a willow-twig merely stretches out its neck between bursts of song to pick some up. A long-tailed tit keeps fluttering up from the top of a bramble bush to snatch a midge drifting by.

Starlings wheel and swoop in the sky, taking flies on the wing. Some starlings are already carrying beakfuls of food to newly-hatched nestlings. Among the last summer visitors to return to Britain are the swifts, which are now speeding and screaming over the rooftops, rocking from side to side to catch insects in their open beaks.

On the hawthorns, the

small spherical flower-buds are turning into sheets of white blossom with a powerful scent. Cow parsley is starting to form misty white ribbons along the sides of the lanes.

Among nettles beds, the soft-petalled flowers of red campion are opening on their tall stalks. The spiky white flowers of wild garlic, or ramsons, are coming out in damp, shady places: they are often found alongside the fading bluebells.

DJM

**The New Times Nature Diary by Derwent May, based on DJM's Nature Notes and illustrated by Richard Blaks, has just been published in a paperback edition by Robson Books at £6.99.**

## Birthdays today

Lady Sarah Chato celebrates her 31st birthday today

Sir Andrew Armstrong, colonial administrator, 88; Mr Naim Anallah, publisher, 64; Earl Bathurst, 68; Sir Richard Brooke, chartered accountant, 80; Mr Sieve Cauthe, jockey, 35; Mr Ian Curnis, playwright, 60; Lord Dahrendorf, 66; Sir Henry de Waal, QC, 64; Mr D.R. du Croz, Headmaster, Ellesmere College, Shropshire, 48; Mr David Freeman, opera and theatre director, 43; Dr M. Goldstein, Vice-Chancellor, Coventry University, 56; Sir Irvine Gouding, former High Court judge, 85; Mr Joseph Heller, author, 72; Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Hill, 58; Mr K. Kennedy, former chairman, Phillips UK, 58; Professor Philip King, sculptor, 61; Miss Joanna Lumley, actress, 49; Sir Bruce MacPhail, managing director, P&O, 56; Mr Julian Mitchell, writer, 60; Mr Archie Norman, chief executive, Arda Group, 41; Paul Oakley-White, Honorary Consul for Russia, 59; Dame Felicity Peake, first director, WRAF, 82; Sir Bob Reid, chairman, London Electricity, 61; Sir Lindsay Ring, former Lord Mayor of London, 81; Earl Sordes, 55; Sir Greville Spratt, former Lord Mayor of London, 68; Miss Una Stubbs, actress, 58; Lord Taylor of Goforth, 65; Miss Wendy Tovey, theatrical producer, 78; Mr Michael Watson, MP, 46; Miss Maymie Webb, former deputy director, British Museum, 72; Sir John Wheeler, MP, 55; Admiral Sir John Woodward, 63; Mr Antony Wornall-Thompson, restaurateur, 43.

## Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Rudolf I, Holy Roman Emperor, founder of the Hapsburg dynasty, Schloss Limburg, Germany, 1218; William Lilly, astrologer, Diseworth, Leicestershire, 1602; Sebastian Le Prestre de Vauban, Marshal of France, military engineer, St. Leger-Vauban, 1633; John Woodward, geologist and physician, Derbyshire, 1665; Joseph Addison, essayist, Milston, Wiltshire, 1672; Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington, Field Marshal, Prime Minister 1828-30, Dublin, 1769; James C. Mangani, poet, Dublin, 1831; Maria Cornelia de Chardonnet, pioneer of rayon manufacture, Besancon, France, 1839.

DEATHS: Dermot MacMurrough, King of Leinster 1167-71, Ireland, 1171; John Dryden, Poet Laureate 1668-88, London, 1700; David Livingstone, explorer, Chitamba, Zambia, 1873; Janáček, composer, Prague, 1904; José Enrique Rodó, philosopher, Palermo, 1917; Sir Ebenezer Howard, pioneer of garden cities, Welwyn Garden City, 1928; Josef Goebbels, Nazi war criminal, committed suicide, Berlin, 1945; William Fox, film producer, New York, 1952.

The Union of England and Scotland was proclaimed, 1707. "Penny Black" stamps were issued for the first time, 1840. German troops surrendered in Italy, 1945.

## Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy and Royal Marines: Commodore M C Shirley - Sultan as Captain, Oct 26. Captain: H P May - Devonport, Oct 17; J W Parker - Seabank, Nov 7; S C Thornehill - Seabank, Oct 24.

Commander C R Munns - MOD London, Sept 29. Surgeon Commander (D): E A Ball - Sultan, July 21; D L Thomas - Neptune, July 14.

The Army: Colonel: A J G Wright - To JPS PIHQ, May 1. Lieutenant Colonel: D H A Blease RA - To RMCS, May 6; J P Hargreaves - To RMCS, May 6; C P Hargreaves - To RMCS, May 6; C P Hargreaves - To RMCS, May 6.

Retirement: Colonel: D A B Williams - Late RGLI, May 6.



Mr Ellis Whitcomb and Miss Mary Rose Loyd at Sandringham church

## St Mary's Hospital Paddington

A Service of Thanksgiving and Rededication on the 150th Anniversary of St Mary's Hospital, Paddington (part of St Mary's NHS Trust) will be held in Westminster Abbey at noon on Tuesday, June 20, 1995.

Former staff, patients, volunteers, and others associated with the hospital, are invited to apply for complimentary tickets to Mr Richard Abbott, Room 20, The Nursing Office, St Mary's NHS Trust, Praed Street, London, W2 1NY, enclosing a stamped and addressed envelope, by Friday, May 26, 1995. Tickets will be posted on June 1.

## The University College of Ripon and York St John

The Governors of the University College of Ripon and York St John are pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Robin A. Butlin as Principal.

Professor Butlin is presently at Loughborough University of Technology and will take up his appointment at the beginning of September when the present Principal, Professor Gordon McGregor, retires.

## Lecture

The College of Estate Management: The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, delivered a lecture on "Property and Contract in the Common Law of Land" at the City Chambers Edinburgh on Friday evening. The lecture was the second in a series organised by the College to mark the 75th Anniversary of its foundation. The Chairman of the College, Mr Stephen Burman, presided and the Vice of Thanks was proposed by Mr Alan Martin.

## University news

## Kings College London

Recent research grants include: Age Concern Institute of Gerontology; Professor A. Tinker, £94,075 (Department of Health); £100,000 grant 1994-95; evaluation of monitoring of the senior health service.

Chemistry: Dr H. H. Fielding, £59,582 (Leeds University); Dr M. P. F. Barrett, £50,000 (Research Strategy Fund); contribution to new chemical physics laboratory.

Developmental Biology Research Centre: Dr J. Marsh, £199,537 (MRC); analysis of transitional control in spermatogenesis using chicken and mouse; Dr L. C. Mahadevan, £64,083 (Cancer Research Campaign); role of signalling in neoplasia and proto-oncogene induction.

Education: Dr J. R. Bliss, £51,436 (ESRC); empirical investigation and conceptual physical reasoning sciences.

Immunology: Dr M. P. Barrett, £50,000 (MRC); Dr J. Marsh, £199,537 (MRC); Dr L. C. Mahadevan, £64,083 (Cancer Research Campaign); role of signalling in neoplasia and proto-oncogene induction.

Mathematics: Professor G. Taylor, Dr V. Bell, £8,753 (ESRC); European Community, programmable neural networks; Dr J. Marsh, £199,537 (MRC); implementation of neural networks using threshold gates.

Molecular Biology and Biophysics: Professor H. J. Gould, Dr J. S. Sutton, £10,000 (MRC); structural studies of complexes formed between IgG and its high and low affinity receptors; Dr J. Marsh, £199,537 (MRC); mechanism of muscle contraction.

Nursing & Midwifery Division: Dr J. Marsh, £199,537 (MRC); Dr J. S. Sutton, £10,000 (MRC); structural studies of complexes formed between IgG and its high and low affinity receptors; Dr J. Marsh, £199,537 (MRC); mechanism of muscle contraction.

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## Liverpool

Senior appointments: Morion Davies, Director of the Liverpool Institute of Public Administration and Management, to a Chair of Public Administration and Management.

Eric Derouane, Director, Laboratoire de Catalyse, Faculté des Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix, Namur, Belgium, to be Director of the Leverhulme Centre for Innovative Catalysis. The status and title of professor will be associated with this post.

Harold Townsend, Senior Lecturer in Medical Entomology, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, to the Selwyn Lloyd Chair of Medical Entomology.

The university has conferred the status and title of professor on the following:

John Connor, Reader in the School of Politics and Communication Studies; Graham Huddings, Deputy Director of the Leverhulme Centre for Innovative Catalysis; Barry Munslow, Reader in the School of Politics and Communication Studies; Jonathan Rhodes, Reader in the Department of Archaeology, Classics and Oriental Studies; Gareth Williams, Reader in the Department of Medicine.

The university has also made the following senior management appointments:

Susan Rutherford, Personnel Manager, Manchester Metropolitan University, to be Director of Personnel.

## Marriages

Mr R.C. Daniels and Miss J. Bromley-Davenport: The marriage took place quietly on Saturday, April 29, at Holy Trinity Chapel, Capethorne Hall, Cheshire, between Mr Rupert Daniels and Miss Jane Bromley-Davenport.

Mr W.A. Smyth and Miss C.J. Reay: The marriage took place on Saturday, April 29, 1995, at St Michael and All Angels Church, Berkhamsted, between Mr Andrew Smyth and Miss Catherine Reay.

Mr E.F.P. Whitcomb and Miss M.R. Loyd: The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Mary Magdalene, Sandringham, Norfolk, of Mr Ellis Whitcomb, son of Major and Mrs Stuart Whitcomb, of Hatfield Park, Hertfordshire, to Miss Mary Rose Loyd, younger daughter of Sir Julian and Lady Loyd, of Burnham Market, Norfolk. Canon George Hall officiated. The bride, who was given in

marriage by her father, was attended by Edward Mitchell and Alicia Mitchell. The Hon Patrick Knollys was best man.

A reception was held in Sandringham Park and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R.J.T. Williams and Miss A.C. McArthur: The marriage took place on Saturday in Emmanuel College Chapel, Cambridge, of Mr Rhyss Williams, only son of Professor Sir David Williams, QC, and Lady Williams, of Cambridge, to Miss Annette McArthur, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John McArthur, of Bexley, Kent. The Bishop of Peterborough and the Rev Jeremy Caddick officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs Lorna McArthur-Rennardson. Mr David Dickens was best man.

A reception was held at Wolfson College and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

## Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.A. Guy and Ms V.J.H. Hill: The engagement is announced between Dominic, only son of Mr Clive Guy, of Beckenham, Kent, and Mrs Beverley Guy, of St Margarets Bay, Kent, and Vanessa, only daughter of Mr A.C. Hill, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, and Mrs Mair Hill, of Brackley, Northamptonshire.

Mr N.W. Lumsden and Miss E.J. Lee: The engagement is announced between Nigel William, only son of Mr G.R.C. and the late Mrs N.C. Lumsden, of Brechin, Angus, and Fiona, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Lee, of Corcombe, Dorset.

Mr M.J. Meadows and Miss L.L.A. Cramer: The engagement is announced between Miles, only son of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Meadows, of Roehampton, London, and Lynne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Dennis Patrick Cramer, of Bridgewater, Somerset.

Mr R.A.B. Moore and Miss C.M. Stewart: The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Moore, of Kensington, London, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen M. Stewart, of Southport, Connecticut, USA.

Mr J.W.G. Talbot Rice and Miss M.L.E. Sprinck: The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Talbot Rice, of Kensington, and Tina, daughter of the late Dr Hans Sprinck, of Johannesburg, and of Mrs Annelle Sprinck, of Peterborough.

Mr M. Thain and Miss C.L. Chalmers: The engagement is announced between Mark, elder son of Mr and Mrs Bud Thain, of State College, Pennsylvania, and Catherine, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Chalmers, of Little Baddow, Essex.

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## Today's royal engagement

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Marshal of the Royal Air Force, will visit RAF Saxa Vord, Harrold, Wiltshire, on Thursday, May 4, at noon.

## Service dinner

Surrey Yeomanry (Queen Mary's Regiment): Viscount Montgomery of Alamein was the guest of honour at a dinner of the Surrey Yeomanry Regimental Association held on Saturday at the Duke of York's Headquarters.

Corporal Jack Proctor (1914-18), Colonel David Sims (president), and Lieutenant-Colonel Tom Davis also spoke. Major Keith Taylor was in the chair.

## Appointments

Mr Ian Burns, Grade 2 Head of the Police Department at the Home Office, to transfer to the Lord Chancellor's Department in August to succeed Mr Michael Malone-Lee as Head of the department's Policy Group.

Sir John Birch, Ambassador to Hungary, to be Director of the British Association for Central and Eastern Europe in succession to Mr Alan Brooke Turner who is retiring.

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## BIRTHS

BATMAN - On April 28th, 1995, to Adam and Helen, Harry Matthew Courtney.

BROWN - On April 18th, 1995, to Kevin and Julie, daughter, Hannah Rachel, a sister for Adam and Bethany.

HARVEY - On Tuesday 25th April, to Jean (nee Parr) and Andrew, a son, Nathan Alexander, 6th Ave, Croydon, Surrey.

JENNIE - On March 28th, 1995, to Louise and Ian, a daughter, Isobel Paul.

KENNEDY - On Tuesday 25th April, to Sonia (nee Bond) and Paul, a son, Keenan Paul, a brother for Jack and Oliver.

PUGH - On April 19th, to Katharine (nee McDonald) and Steven, a son, Samuel Thomas Edgar, a brother for Sophie.

SRD - Violet Elise (Viv) on 27th April 1995, at Cranford Nursing Home, Epsom, Surrey. Wife of the late Col. R. B. SrD, Group Warwickshire. Mrs SrD died of cancer. The funeral service will be held at St. Andrew's Church, Cranford, on Friday, May 5th, at 11.00 am. Burial in the churchyard. Flowers by family.

BUSHE - On April 27th, 1995, to John and Mary, a daughter, Emily Rose, a sister for James and Lucy.

CHILLEN - On April 27th, 1995, to David and Susan, a daughter, Emily Rose, a sister for James and Lucy.

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CHILLEN - On April 27th, 1995, to David and Susan, a daughter, Emily Rose, a sister for James and Lucy.

## DEATHS

ALT - Laurence Benjamin, On 27th April 1995 at home, after an illness, aged 84. Burial in the most outstanding courage. Adored and so very much loved husband of Jean. Survived by sons and daughters who cherish his memory.

ARGENTI - Michael, On 27th April 1995, at home, after an illness, aged 84. Burial in the most outstanding courage. Adored and so very much loved husband of Jean. Survived by sons and daughters who cherish his memory.

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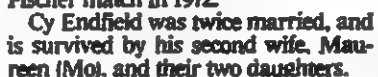


**CY ENDFIELD**



With speculation mounting over what was perceived to be a constant left-wing bias in Endfield's films — an accusation fuelled by the discovery that while at Yale he had been an active worker on behalf of the Young Communist League — he was eventually

But perhaps Cy Endfield will be best remembered for *Zulu*, an epic account



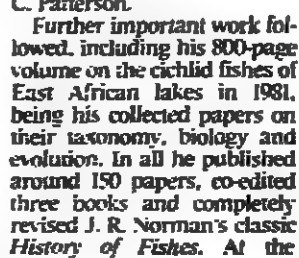
by Samuel Selvon, Edgar Mittelholzer and John Hearne, all writing novels.



ment (1960), told of the depressing experiences of a middle-class Jamaican adrift

He is survived by his wife Patricia and by two sons.

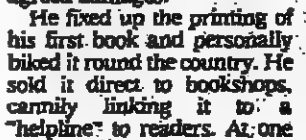
His work prompted him to reconsider the basic tenets of speciation theory — meaning the formation of new and



While sometimes irascible, Greenwood's forthright nature, rich sense of often low-deck humour and gift of mimicry contrasted dramatically with his love of art and ballet. He had a complex personality and the ability to convey his enthusiasms to all around him.

He married in 1950 and is survived by his wife Marjorie and four daughters.

lawyers surplus to requirements in personal injury actions, which he depicted as a Kafkaesque quagmire. He was never active as a solicitor again except to offer readers of his first book appropriate free conveyancing advice: but he kept his advocate's hand in with sustained attacks on lawyers through articles in the press and TV and radio appearances. He often found



He leaves his widow, Audrey, whom he married in 1964, and three sons.

The Rev. Richard Newson, Priest-in-charge, St Andrew's, Malvern (Worcesters), to be Team Rector, Kingswood Team Ministry (Bristol).

The Rev. Paul Ormrod, Team Vicar, Church of the Ascension, Woodson, to be Priest-in-charge, St Peter, Formby (Liverpool).

His logic is devastating. It has been estimated that in one year a general practitioner will be consulted for a neurotic illness by 8.9 per cent of all those adults registered with him. In a practice of 2,500 patients, including children, this means about 785 adults. Suppose five minutes a week were allotted to each of these patients, though this is surely a great underestimate of their needs. Allow a minute between consultations to write notes and usher in the next patient. The practitioner will be occupied for 17½ hours a week, leaving him the equivalent of the whole of one week to do anything else. As is pointed out, it is clearly impossible for the practitioner to give so much of his time.

The position is further complicated by the

fact that there is no agreed effective treatment and that "it is becoming increasingly respectable to be diagnosed as suffering from neurosis." . . . On the tendency to treat these neurotic patients with drugs, the article says that "it is doubtful if, had the millions of pounds worth of pills poured down the throats of neurotics consisted of nothing but starch, they would have been any less efficacious. Certainly they would have been much safer."

Why then do doctors continue to prescribe so much? "It is certainly not that they are taken in by the blandishments of manufac-

The article says the National Health Service is not equipped to provide adequate facilities for the treatment of neurosis. "Perhaps therefore its managers ought to make it plain that the service cannot accept responsibility for this section of illness... Yet, in practice, such a disclaimer by the N.H.S. would be impossible... so we have to struggle on, practising ineffectively. Until the theoretical understanding of how to treat neurosis is achieved, until there is considerably more money to spend within the N.H.S. the problem of how to manage the mass of neurotic patients known to their doctors

One gleam of hope in this darkening scene is that a recent study in a Scottish border town indicates that most neurotics get better.



Widget Finn sees how technology and often simple adaptations to computers or keyboards can give disabled people independence

# Smile that says well done, son

There is good news in the field of assistive technology which helps disabled people to maximise their abilities. Prices have dropped, making high-tech aids available to more users, claims Paul Hawes of the Foundation for Communications for Disabled People.

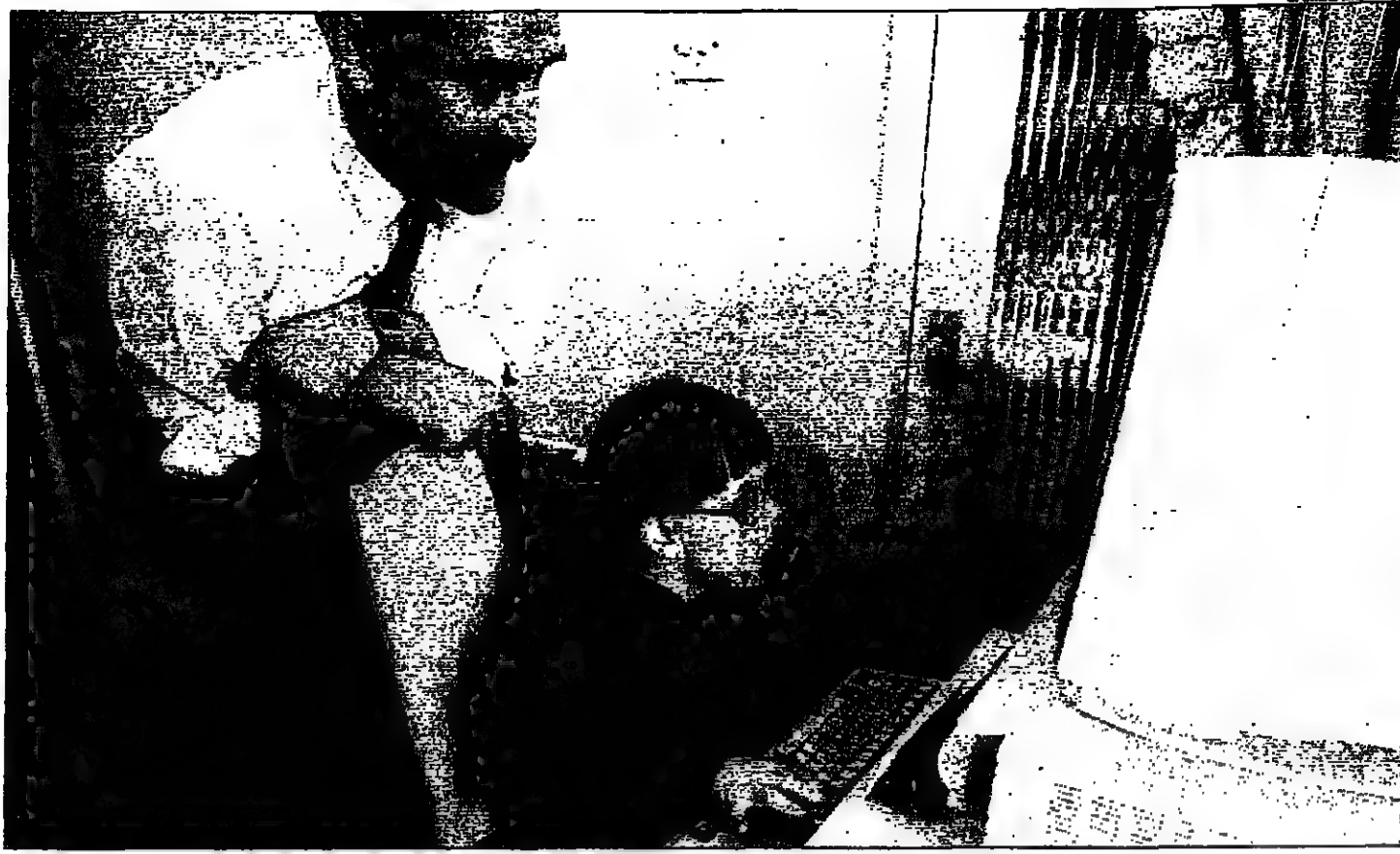
"Reading machines and voice recognition programs have been around for some time," says Mr Hawes. "The first character-recognition computer was imported into the UK 12 years ago, but it was the size of a washing machine and at £32,000 the price of a house. Its equivalent today costs £600."

The foundation provides free assessment of technology which will suit an individual's needs. The service is unbiased, says Mr Hawes, with advice ranging from "why not get a loose-leaf photograph book to help with communication" to "you need £8,000-worth of computer system".

New technology has given Barbara Pestell independence. After an accident 18 years ago she is paralysed from the neck down and became totally dependent on other people. When she worked for her Master's degree all her notes had to be dictated to a carer.

Recently Mrs Pestell acquired a voice-activated computer which has transformed her work as a counsellor. She can now ensure complete confidentiality for her clients because she is able to write her own case studies. Mrs Pestell finds that a set of standard headphones is also invaluable for her job. "They give me the privacy to have a telephone conversation without the rest of the household listening in," she says.

High-tech aids costing even a few hundred pounds are beyond the purse of most disabled people and there is little government assistance. Roger Jelcoate, founder of the Aidis Trust, uses his knowledge



James Sleight, aged seven, on his computer at home in Oxfordshire, watched by his father Neil, founder of a computer company

of grant-making trusts to provide people with much-needed equipment. He specialises in obtaining charitable funds to buy technological aids which will help a disabled person to make the best use of his or her abilities.

Mr Jelcoate also arranges dev-

elopment funding for research into new equipment. Discussions with the Parkinson's Disease Society alerted him to the need for an air mattress which would turn the disabled person automatically, and the funding he secured for development resulted in the Technibed.

Developing assistive technology is expensive. A few commercial companies including Pearl Assurance sponsor research while on the other side of the equation Aspire, the charity which helps people with spinal cord injuries, has launched a £3.4 million appeal to fund a

professor in disability and technology.

The newest developments in computer technology are being incorporated into software which helps disabled children to read and write. Oxford Top Class Computers advises parents on appropriate

systems and its founder, Neil Sleight, is enthusiastic about a new program which helps children like his son James, who has Down's syndrome. James, aged seven, cannot hold a pencil but the program enables him to draw on the screen with his finger and use a mouse or stylus.

Computers can unlock hidden skills in a disabled child, claims Mr Sleight, whose company recently recommended a scanning device which "talks" for a six-year-old with speech problems. The boy is already more adept at the computer than many adults, using the system to suit his own requirements.

Most people have no idea of the potential of a standard computer, says Bill Fine, a consultant at the Computability Centre, which advises disabled people on computer technology. "Keyboards can be reduced in size, computers work at any speed which suits the user and a mouse can be moved by keys for those who cannot grip," he says.

Jill Russell, a policy officer in the Department of Health who had polio, can use only her right hand. She risked permanent injury by trying to operate a computer single-handed until the Computability Centre recommended a customised keyboard and a trackball. "I thought I would just have to cope," she says, "but a free software package and £150 worth of kit made all the difference."

Details: The Foundation for Communications for the Disabled: 01483 727848; The Computability Centre: 01926 312847; Oxford Top Class Computers: 01865 241081; Invenidat: 01234 750791; Aspire: 0181-954 0701.

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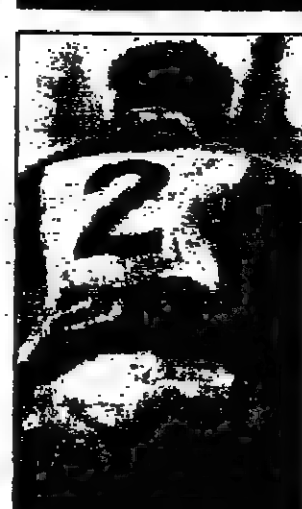
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Race of legends under starter's orders



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Runaway Wigan still in a league of their own



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Moore turns his back on league scene

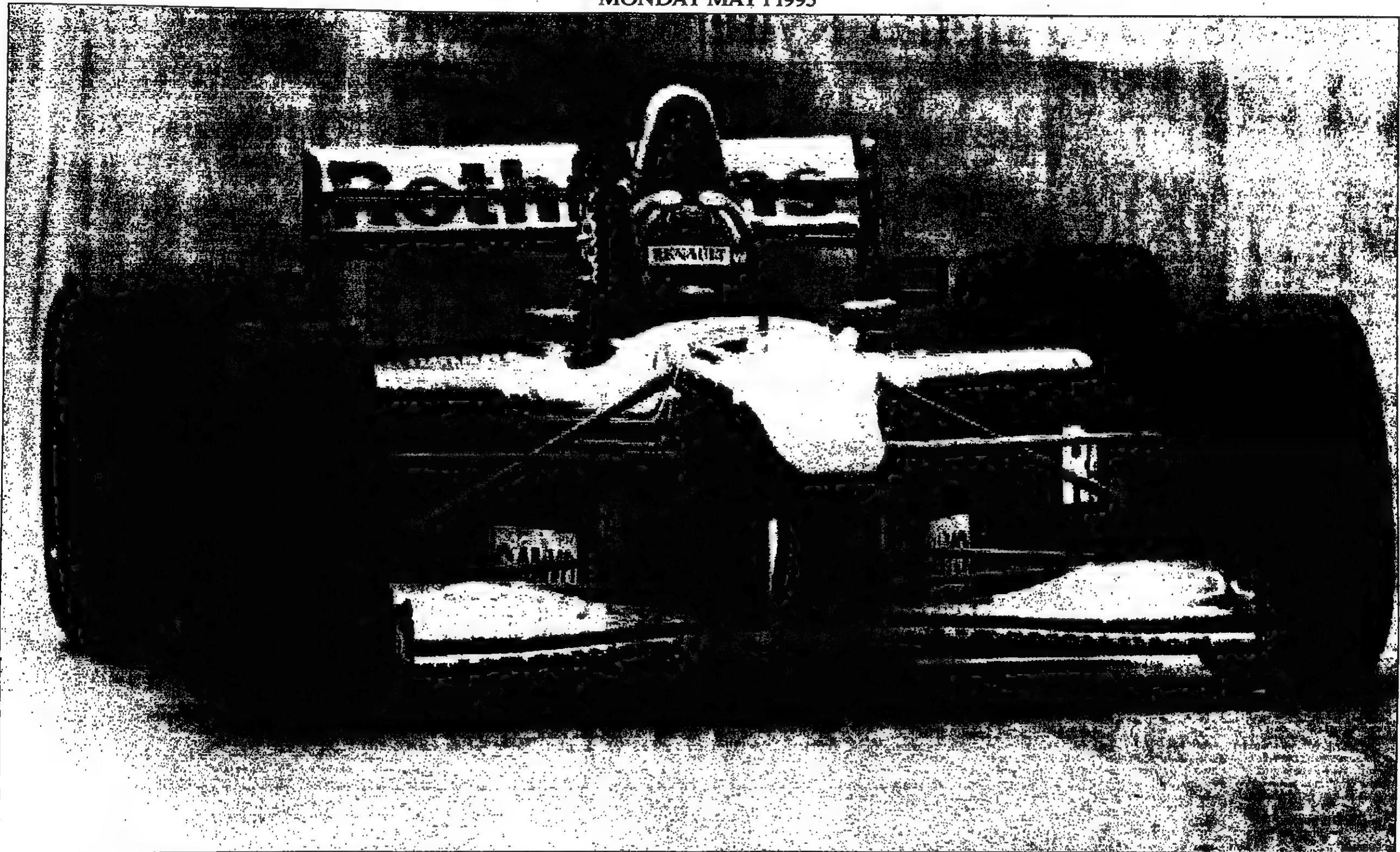


34

Captain Atherton forced to toe the line

# TIMES SPORT

MONDAY MAY 1 1995



Hill drives his Williams-Renault to victory in the San Marino Grand Prix at Imola yesterday. The British driver now leads the world championship by six points. Photograph: Glen Campbell

'It was a good race, I think Ayrton would have approved'

## Hill provides fitting epitaph

FROM OLIVER HOLT  
IN SAN MARINO

ONE by one, they forced their way through the mass of photographers and camera crews and took their place in the small circle of drivers standing silently at the front of the grid. Damon Hill stared straight ahead. Gerhard Berger bowed his head and closed his eyes and Nigel Mansell stood stock still. Beside them, one of the photographers wept.

Behind them, the track stretched out like a dark tunnel to the Tamborello Corner, where Ayrton Senna was killed in last year's San Marino Grand Prix. They remembered him and Roland Ratzenberger for a minute that seemed like an hour. Then, their emotions churning, they went back to work.

The men who had been confronted by the evidence of their own mortality when two of their colleagues were killed this time last year, produced a race of rare intensity and excitement yesterday. The cycle that began here a year ago is over and this was a joyful catharsis.

If last year's race was blessed, this one was blessed. Not just because it provided a feast of close racing but because it was won by Hill.

Senna's team-mate. Others drove fine races too, but Hill bore the brunt of the shock that affected the Williams team last year and it seemed fitting that he should exercise some of the ghosts with a storybook victory.

He won by more than 18 seconds from the Ferrari of

Jean Alesi after Michael Schumacher had crashed out of the race on the tenth lap. Hill drove a flawless, patient race that emphasised his growing confidence and maturity. He struggled to find the words to express his feelings immediately afterwards but later they came in a flood.

"I was very emotional in the car at the end of the race," Hill said, "because soon after you go past the place where Ayrton had his accident. You feel the elation from winning because there is so much emotional pressure to win the race and so much concentration."

"But you look across and you see the picture of Ayrton

on the wall at the spot where he crashed and you remember all the things that happened last year and how things have changed in the sport. It is like mountains and valleys. The highs and the lows are very, very distinct."

"If you want to win too much, you cramp your style a bit, so I was pacing myself over the weekend and trying to keep myself in check. I was able to keep the terrible times of last year out of my mind most of the time and get on with the job. I think it was a good race and I think Ayrton would have approved of it."

The win, his second in succession and his eleventh overall, took him to the top of

the drivers' championship for the first time in his short Formula One career. Hill leads Schumacher and Alesi by six points. After a difficult weekend, confidence is coursing through the Williams team again and they are equal with Ferrari at the top of the constructors' championship.

Schumacher blamed his spectacular crash on a recently fitted set of slick tyres that destabilised the back end of his car on a damp track. His Benetton-Renault twinned to the right as he crested the brow of a hill approaching Piratella at 150mph, spun into a concrete wall ripping off two tyres and then hurtled backwards into the tyre barriers.

The reigning world champion was shaken but unhurt.

His premature exit left Berger, who had started from the front row of the grid, with a ten-second lead over Hill. As the Englishman closed on him, Hill, in turn, was being pressured by David Coulthard, his team-mate, and behind him, Alesi was trying everything he knew to pass the Scot. It was thrilling stuff.

Berger's race was ruined on the 22nd lap when he stalled his Ferrari at a pit stop and emerged more than 40 seconds behind Hill. Coulthard, in second place, conducted a desperate but highly skilful defensive battle with Alesi, blocking him legitimately at

every turn. On one occasion, coming into the remodelled Tamborello, the two actually touched wheels.

Eventually, Coulthard appeared to have exhausted Alesi's challenge and concentrated his energy on the pursuit of Hill. But, on the 29th lap, Coulthard spun on the greasy surface and lost his momentum. Five laps later, he was given a ten-second stop and go penalty for speeding in the pit lane and his challenge was effectively over. He finished fourth behind Berger.

Nigel Mansell's comeback with McLaren-Mercedes finished in disappointment after a probable place in the points ended in a collision with Eddie Irvine's Jordan-Peugeot.

Afterwards, Alesi, not a driver renowned for his timidity or lack of aggression on the track, attacked Coulthard's tactics. "I have had good battles with lots of other drivers," Alesi said. "But Coulthard is the most incorrect driver I have ever known. I hate it when people zigzag and it is indefensible early in the race."

Coulthard responded with characteristic calm before marching up to the Ferrari motorhome to confront his accuser. "I much prefer to discuss things face-to-face," he said. "I have had a conversation with Jean which, I think, has resolved the matter and we go forward from here."

On the track, hordes of Ferrari devotees swarmed happily over the hallowed ground. Imola had always been a race eagerly anticipated by everyone until this year. Now, it will be again.



A disgruntled Schumacher surveys the wreckage after the crash that ended his race

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# Watson keeps Eurosport in pole position

ALL Formula One fans can tell you exactly where they were when Ayrton Senna was killed. They were at home, watching it on television. From Murray Walker's first cry of alarm, to the moment the BBC director decided enough was enough and switched to the pit-lane, the pictures relayed by the Italian host broadcaster remain the most harrowing and disturbing ever seen in a sports broadcast.

And also, inevitably, the most memorable. For those equipped to receive Eurosport, nobody will forget the scenes the satellite channel rightly continued to show long after the BBC had turned away. The ambulances, the activity, the endlessly circling television helicopter and the quiet, sensitive commentary of John

Watson, who calmly and intelligently talked on as his colleague and friend lay dying. Thankfully, as the motor racing world took a deep breath and waited for this year's San Marino Grand Prix to get underway, neither channel ran replays of Senna's accident, or that of Roland Ratzenberger. Both, however, appeared to be taken a little by surprise by the drivers' silent tribute that preceded yesterday's race. For one ghastly moment, I thought Walker was going to discuss grid positions as the rest of Imola fell silent. But quickly he realised what was happening and fell silent too.

Then, as heads were raised and caps replaced, it was time to move on. It was the first European grand prix of the season and the first opportuni-



MATTHEW BOND  
TV ACTION REPLAY

ty to judge the investment that both channels have made in Formula One this year. On the track it was Schumacher versus Hill, on the television it was Walker versus Watson.

For the true race enthusiast, Eurosport has the edge, not least because of its coverage of the qualifying sessions and the race-day warm-up. Not that this guarantees good television. Saturday's qualifying session was about exciting as the Crucible Theatre without Jimmy White. Then there is

the channel's annoying habit of taking commercial breaks during the race. Anyone wondering what happened to David Coulthard's challenge would have been very puzzled if they were watching Eurosport. On BBC, we saw his spin about a dozen times.

Behind the lip-mikes, Eurosport's new partnership of Watson and Ben Edwards appears to be bedding down well, with Edwards content to play a restrained second fiddle to his articulate senior part-

ner. Both, however, need to polish up their presentation skills if they are to justify the expense of the channel's own camera, another of this year's innovations.

Mindful, perhaps, of Walker's individual style in front of a camera, the BBC had flown out Steve Rider to smooth its own presentation. Rider, however, quickly discovered why Walker has spent a lifetime shouting into a microphone he holds with one hand while clapping the other over an ear. Formula One is very noisy.

Alongside Walker in the BBC commentary box, Jonathan Palmer is growing in stature. He will never have the charisma of James Hunt, but in terms of technical and tactical insight, he is beginning to cut into the lead that Watson has established for

Eurosport. Nevertheless, it was the Eurosport boys who were first to spot who was starting on slick tyres rather than wets.

Both channels took race pictures provided by their Italian host broadcaster. Inevitably, the director supplied more footage of Ferraris than the BBC might have liked. In fact, if Damon Hill had not taken the lead, we might never have seen him at all.

Finally, spare a time-delayed thought for the BBC, whose coverage of the world snooker championship ended last night. Its practice of using recordings, rather than live action, meant that Stephen Hendry's 147 break was shown a good hour after news bulletins reported it. How David Vine kept a straight face, I shall never know.

## England complete double triumph

ENGLAND'S triumphant record in the European team squash championships continued impeccably at the Frans Ouden Stadion in Amsterdam yesterday with a 4-0 win over Finland in the men's final and a 3-0 win over Holland in the women's final (Colin McQuillan writes). English superiority was further demonstrated by the fact that both sides were won without dropping a rubber and with the two top-ranked players, Peter Marshall and Suzanne Horner, absent.

Other British men's teams fared less well, however. Sweden took the men's bronze, with Wales beating France only on games-countback yesterday for fifth place. Scotland finished seventh and Ireland tenth. Scotland's women took the bronze medal for the first time in a decade, but Ireland could manage only eighth place and Wales, thirteenth.

## Villepreux steps in

RUGBY UNION: Pierre Villepreux ran a final rule over England at Twickenham yesterday as the clock ticks down before departure for the World Cup in South Africa on May 17 (David Hands writes). The French coach, who took one of the sessions at Marlow last autumn, worked with England's backs, with the exception of Ian Hunter, of Northampton, who was unable to train because of a back injury.

"We need to move the ball faster and with more purpose," Jack Rowell, the manager, said. Kyran Bracken, the scrum half, who missed Bristol's match on Saturday and has not played since March 18, took part, but Jason Leonard, the loose-head prop, stood down after straining a hamstring during Harlequins' vital league win over Gloucester.

## Corsie regains trophy

BOWLS: Richard Corsie, right, from Scotland, recaptured the International Jack High title in Manly, Australia, yesterday. Corsie, the winner in 1993, won a semi-final against Ian Schuback, the former world indoor champion, to reach the final against Cameron Curtis, who beat fellow Australian Steve Glasdon 9-7, 2-9.

9-4. Corsie won the first set 9-4 and, four ends later, completed an easy victory by taking the second set 9-0.



## Indio keep Cairo Cup

POLO: Lucas White's squad, Indio, the previous holders of the Cairo Cup, a Cowdray Park trophy, carried it off at Amersham, Sussex, again yesterday, with a 6-4 victory against Grafton, the quartet put together by David Jamison and Neill McLean. Indio trounced Westsphere, 13-1, in the semi-finals on Saturday. The Wade twins, Jonny and Adrian, played in opposing No 2 positions.

## Lumley powers to title

REAL TENNIS: Penny Lumley, the former world champion, won the Oracle British women's open championship with a commanding performance against Sally Jones, the world champion. Despite dropping the opening two games, Lumley began to impose her immaculate length and fine retrieving skills. Although Jones went for her shots in a string of spirited rallies, Lumley's power proved decisive.

## Brookes oust Blues

ROWING: Oxford University, with five Blues on show, won four events at Wallingford Regatta on Saturday but were overshadowed by their neighbours, Oxford Brookes, whose coach, Richard Spratley, shuffled 14 athletes to win the top three events, humbling school crews from Eton and Hampton. Bedford won the leading women's events but were pushed hard by Wallingford, who entered 35 crews.

## Marsal extends record

CYCLING: Cathy Marsal, right, the 1990 world champion from France, added the women's hour record to her collection of titles on Saturday after covering 47.112 kilometres at the velodrome in Bordeaux. Marsal, 24, added 760 metres to the record set by Jeannie Longo, her compatriot, in October 1989 in Mexico City. The men's world record of 55.291 kilometres was also set in Bordeaux, by Tony Rominger, of Switzerland.



## Clark may pull out

MOTOR RALLYING: Roger Clark and his son, Matthew Clark, may pull out of the London to Mexico Rally after Clark Sr had to tow his son into Ascunzio, Paraguay, yesterday after his Ford Escort blew a second head gasket in as many days on the stage from Londrina. With only one spare cylinder head left between them, it is unlikely either driver will start the 781-mile stage to Ju Juy in Argentina.

## Record shot away

RIFLE SHOOTING: The English XX Club, from which the England shooting teams are selected, were in record-breaking form on Saturday when they beat teams from the RAF, Scotland and Wales. The England team set a new record of 2,057 for a team of 20 shooting under home international short range conditions. Dominic Harvey and Mike Cosway both made the highest possible score of 105.

# Spanish duo signal Ryder Cup intent

THE heavens relented, and the aristocratic bloodlines prevailed. Thus went the final day of the Tournoi Perrier de Paris golf tournament yesterday, when a rousing challenge from a pair of Australian bounty hunters was unable to claim the heads of Severiano Ballesteros and José María Olazábal, who produced their best when it was needed to win with a total of 256, 24 under par.

It was the first day that the tournament had not been stricken by rain, and it was all the better for it. There were even brief glimpses of the sun, a luxury that has been rarely enjoyed in soggy France these last ten days.

The hint of warmth on backs was the incentive for



Smiles all round as Olazábal, left, and Ballesteros congratulate each other after winning the Paris Open pairs tournament yesterday

## FINAL SCORES

GB and Ireland unless stated  
256: S Ballesteros and J M Olazábal (53, 57, 64, 80, 256); M Clayton and P O'Malley (Aus) 55, 70, 63, 68, 256; C Montgomery and I Woosnam 54, 65, 57, 64, 256; S Levenson and J Palmer (SA) 55, 66, 70, 65, 256; P McIlroy 55, 66, 68, 65, 254; P Ellis and R Clayton 53, 74, 65, 61, 253; B Broadhurst and R McFarlane 53, 71, 67, 63, 253; M Macdonald and D Ray 55, 59, 65, 64, 253; Pym and S Clegg 55, 59, 65, 67, 256; F Cullis and P Tennard (PA) 51, 72, 70, 63, 253; Gordo and M Morris 55, 67, 68, 62, 252; Alvarez and J Cervera (Arg) 55, 68, 68, 64, 255; Burns and C Mason 53, 58, 69, 69, 259; Anderson (Swe) and J Carrion (PA) 57, 70, 67, 57, 251; J Beard and J Hennes (SA) 55, 70, 65, 65, 255; J Camies and J Pintero (Spa) 57, 65, 65, 67

Mike Clayton, and Peter O'Malley to fight for Antipodean honour on the second day that this pairs tournament had been played as a four-ball, the second and third days having been devoted to four-somes and greensomes.

The four-ball format is one that can produce spectacular scoring, and so it was as Clayton and O'Malley strung together a remarkable run in which they had eight birdies in nine holes from the 4th. The sole par in that sequence was at the 9th, and when they birdied the 12th they were only two strokes behind the Spanish favourites.

It was as close as they were

to get, but by the end they had covered the last 36 holes in 17 under par, and much more than that could not be expected from any men, especially when chasing such luminaries as Ballesteros and Olazábal.

The Australians had ten birdies in their final better-ball round of 60, jointly the best of the day, but they had left themselves just too much to do on the last two days. They finished three behind, a shot in front of the fast-finishing Ian Woosnam — who pitched in from 50 yards for an eagle

three on the 17th — and Colin Montgomerie.

The man clearing the cars being displayed by one of the tournament sponsors was completing his job for what must have been the twentieth time in the week when Ballesteros and Olazábal set off on the last round. Up to then, the appearance of a chamois leather had been infallibly the signal for the clouds to burst again. This time, the one-man vehicle-lustre finishing department got away with it.

He did his job with considerable pride, and out on the venerable Saint Cloud acres, exactly similar qualities were being displayed by Ballesteros and Olazábal. They have been beaten only twice as a pairing in 15 matches in the Ryder Cup, and afterwards Ballesteros admitted that their record in the competition had been an added incentive for them to do well here.

"We didn't play here only to win, but for our prestige," he said. "It is important that we still have people's respect. We

have to go on proving that we are a good team every time we play."

Was he obliquely referring to the Americans, somebody asked? He was, and the message was not oblique but sharp and to the point. "Send a fax immediately," he said. "Tell them we want the Cup back as soon as possible — and we're ready."

They completed this final, triumphant lap in 62 with Ballesteros holding five shotgaining putts and Olazábal three, but on a couple of

occasions one beat the other to the birdie by only a matter of seconds.

The Spanish pair were the favourites when they arrived at Saint Cloud this week, and before the third round was completed the trophy and its £70,000 had their names on it. The race does not always go to the swiftest, human frailty sees to that. This time class and experience brought its deserved reward.

And as Ballesteros observed: "I guess this proves we're still a good team."

## Samaranch may retain job

FROM DAVID MILLER IN ATLANTA

SENIOR members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), alarmed by clandestine feuding between rivals to succeed Juan Antonio Samaranch as president, are attempting to persuade him to continue in office beyond his intended retirement in 1997.

There is the prospect of a political war among several of the ambitious candidates for the most powerful position in sport. Elder figures such as Keba M'Baye, of Senegal, the retired international judge, and Marc Hodler, the head of international skiing, both too old for office, consider that an extension of Samaranch's tenure, which is already 15 years, is the one way to preserve stability between rival power bases of leading international federations, such as athletics (Primo Nebiolo), football (João Havelange), the Association of National Olympic Committees (Mario Vazquez Rana),

and the financial inside track held by Richard Pound, of Canada.

However, younger members are alarmed at the prospect of an aging Samaranch, already 75, continuing until he would be 81. There is the belief that younger leadership is necessary for a complex organisation about to move into the 21st century.

An extension for Samaranch will require a constitutional change in the IOC charter, which has an arbitrary age limit of 75, reached by Samaranch this year. Raising the limit to 78, at either the session in Budapest this year or at the Olympic Games in Atlanta next year, would make Samaranch eligible for re-election in 1997.

"I'm not wholly convinced," Samaranch said. "Many are pushing me. The unity between federations is not easy, and will be difficult for

another president to maintain." Significantly, he added: "In a few years, there will have been changes at the top in some federations."

Equally significant, by 2001, other candidates will have emerged as potential IOC leader, notably Jacques Rogge, 52, the Belgian Olympic yachtsman, who is president of European NOCs. So obvious is his worth that others were attempting to block his promotion at the centenary Olympic congress last year.

A casualty of the feuding has been Andrew Napier, the IOC's inaugural director of public relations. Worried about the Englishman's supposed allegiance to certain individuals, and his high profile, others have helped persuade Samaranch to close the department and divide public relations among five IOC staff.

## Barcelona run away with victory

London Monarchs..... 24  
Barcelona Dragons..... 39

By RICHARD WETHERELL

OLD failings and old faces combined to condemn the London Monarchs to their third defeat in four games in the World League of American Football yesterday.

Last week, against the Amsterdam Admirals, they were unable to stop Ralph Dawkins from running the ball; this time, a combination of Ricky Blake, who played in the World League for the San Antonio Riders in 1991 and 1992, and Lindsay Chapman kept the Monarchs' defense on the back foot.

The two running backs combined for more than 100 yards as the Barcelona Dragons led 12-7 at half-time and then, with London concentrating their efforts on containing the visitors' running game, Barcelona were also able to put their passing to good use. A returning Dragon, Demetrius Davis, made nine receptions, often at crucial stages, while two long-range touchdown receptions in the third quarter ensured the Monarchs' defeat. Tyree Davis scored from 69 yards out and Mario Henry from 43 yards.

The Monarchs replied with two touchdowns of their own, a 54-yard effort from Alan Allen and a two-yard run from Tony Brooks, but, with

Barcelona kicking two field goals, they were still 24-32 behind.

The decisive blow came in the final two minutes. A touchdown and a successful two-point conversion would have levelled the scores, but, deep in his own half, Brad Johnson, the Monarchs' quarterback, was hit as he threw and the Dragons recovered the ball. Soon after, Chapman completed the scoring.

With Amsterdam's comfortable 31-0 victory against the Scottish Claymores at Murrayfield, yesterday, their fourth win out of four means that their first half of the season cannot be bettered and they will host the World Bowl in June.

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Full details will be published again in the Car 95 section on Saturday.



هكذا من الأصل



Bond left with formidable last-session task in world championship final

# Hendry closes in on fifth world title in six years

By Phil Yates

AS STEPHEN HENDRY began the concluding session of the Embassy world snooker championship final against Nigel Bond at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, last night, it appeared more a matter of when, not if, he would capture the game's premier title for the fifth time in six years.

Hendry, seeking his fourth consecutive triumph at the Crucible, led Bond 16-8 and required only two of the remaining 11 frames for victory and a first prize of £190,000. The Scot was also on the threshold of extending his unbeaten sequence of matches in the championship to 20.

Sweater Shop, the sponsors of the Crucible's management, stable, of which Hendry is a member, also gave him the extra incentive of the keys to a Ferrari should he defend the title successfully this year. Twelve months ago, their present to Hendry was a Bentley Continental.

Hendry, who has not tasted defeat in the championship since a 13-11 quarter-final reversal against Steve James in 1991, threatened to bring the curtain down with a full session to spare when he won the opening three frames yesterday.

Having strung together a total of ten frames without reply, as he did when recovering from an 8-14 deficit to beat Jimmy White 18-14 in the 1992 final, it was perhaps inevitable that Hendry would eventually suffer a lapse in concentration. This manifested itself when Hendry missed a simple last red in the 21st frame and, at 44-14 in the 22nd, a black off its spot.

On both occasions, Bond fashioned clearances to the pink to trail only 14-8, but Hendry then regained the initiative by easily accounting for the last two frames of the afternoon with runs of 71 and 83.

Last year, Hendry retained the title by edging White 18-17 despite being handicapped by

a broken bone in his left arm. The only things he has broken here over the past 17 days are a series of break-building and prize-money records.

The £190,000 first prize, added to the £147,000 bonus he received for compiling only the Crucible's third maximum break, will push his total career earnings to £4,156,975.

That makes Hendry the most financially successful player in the game's history as his great rival Steve Davis has amassed £17,975 less, even though he joined the professional ranks seven years before Hendry, in 1978.

By capturing his 52nd title and winning his 23rd world ranking tournament, Hendry's prize-money from the 1994-95 campaign alone would stand at £689,194. Hendry is sure to collect an additional £12,000 for figuring

in the Matchroom League semi-finals next weekend so is thereby guaranteed to become the first player to bank over £700,000 in a single season.

In a powerful burst reminiscent of the one Hendry produced when he last met Bond in a final, the title-holder built a solid platform for victory by claiming eight of the nine frames played during the second session on Saturday.

Bond, who led Hendry 5-3 before being crushed 10-5 in the 1990 Grand Prix final, began confidently again. He moved 5-4 ahead with a 68 break direct from Hendry's grossly misjudged safety shot early in the ninth frame and one began to wonder whether a pair of unforgotten errors from Bond in the next two

frames proved pivotal. They undermined his self-belief and, more crucially, allowed Hendry to crank open the floodgates. Leading 5-1 in the tenth frame, Bond, so dependable to that point, missed a straightforward red to a middle pocket and Hendry gratefully pounced with a run of 60 to level at 5-5.

Bond was again in first in the 11th. He potted a long red but, trying to nestle the cue-ball tightly in behind the green for a fiendish snooker, he failed to reach and only succeeded in blocking his own path to the reds.

From the self-inflicted trap, Bond found adequate safety impossible. Hendry compiled an 81 break from the scoring opportunity presented him to lead 6-5 and Bond offered little resistance in the closing five frames of the evening.

Hendry, meanwhile, constructed further breaks of 70, 63, 60, 84 and 124 to forge into an 11-5 overnight advantage.

That latter effort was Hendry's eleventh century of this year's event, three more than anyone has ever compiled in a single championship. It was also his 48th of the season, superseding the record 47 he managed to compile during 1990-91.

Hendry has now made 293 centuries as a professional. It is a measure of how he has raised this department of the game to a new dimension that only one other player, Steve Davis, can boast over 200, and only three others, Jimmy White, John Parrott and James Wattana have exceeded 100.

Dennis Taylor, the 1985 world champion, who has covered the event as a commentator for BBC television, believes Hendry is the most accomplished player snooker has produced. "I've been saying it for three or four years now and what he's done here over the last couple of weeks proves it," Taylor said. Few would argue with that.



Hendry sizes up a pot on his way to establishing a 16-8 advantage yesterday. Photograph: Eric Whitehead

## Worthing secure Budweiser honours with style

By Nicholas Harling

THE glorious dream materialised for Alan Cunningham in the Wembley Arena last night when he led the Worthing Bears to their third successive Budweiser basketball championship title. Their 77-73 victory over Manchester Giants gave the veteran player-coach an unprecedented seventh play-off success running. Clearly, it mattered little to Worthing's jubilant supporters that the 40-year-old Cunningham had just played his last game for the club after falling out with his board of directors, which had accused of lacking ambition for declining two invitations to compete in Europe.

The obvious recipient of the most-valuable-player award for his contribution of 19 points at 14 rebounds, Cunningham was hugged by his two daughters as he came off the court moments after Herman Harried had secured Worthing's victory with a breakaway lay-up. It was the last basket of a final that had contained enough twists and turns to last a season, never mind a weekend.

There seemed only one winner when the Giants, inspired by the breaks of Cam Johnson that were clearly too nippy for the ageing Bears, scored 11 successive points early on. The burst was started and finished by Johnson's fellow American, Mark Robinson, and took the Mancunians into a 13-4 lead.

Yet, it was then, with a zone defence and the considerable help of Colin Irish, the scorer of 23 points in the surprise 84-72 victory the previous night over the double winners, Sheffield Sharks, that the Bears replied with a 17-4 spree that took them into the interval trailing by only 37-35.

It could have been so much worse with Irish already on three fouls and Worthing having survived a spell when their shots were not even close. Their recovery was consolidated in a 15-3 post-interval sequence, which led to their thinking, presumably, that the match was over at three-quarter time when their advantage was 56-46.

Back, though, came the Giants with 14 of the next 19 points to herald a dramatic last four minutes. Worthing conceded the initiative to the third and fourth three-pointers from Kevin St Kitts and continued to miss their free throws with alarming regularity. For once, however, it did not matter as Irish and Harried made up for their lapses from close range to sink the decisive baskets.

Cunningham was adamant that he would carry on playing. "I've made more comebacks than Frank Sinatra, so there'll be no more retiring," he said. Reggie Miller equalled a National Basketball Association (NBA) play-off record with six three-point shots in a half in Indianapolis on Saturday as Indiana beat Atlanta 105-97 to take a 2-0 lead in their first-round series.

It was a day for levelling the score as Cleveland and the Los Angeles Lakers both bounced back from big defeats to pull even in their first-round series. Cleveland, who were beaten 103-79 by New York on Thursday, rebounded with a 90-84 victory over the Knicks at Madison Square Garden to tie the best-of-five series 1-1.

The Cavaliers forced 26 turnovers and held the Knicks scoreless for a minute and a half in the closing stages. At the same time, five Cleveland starters scored in double figures.

Results, page 32

## Kent provide cold comfort for spectators

Shortly after tea, on the first day of the Britannic Assurance County Championship cricket season last Thursday, I opened a copy of *Kent Calling*, the official newsletter of Kent County Cricket Club, and read what it was like to enjoy a day at the St Lawrence Ground.

I was there at the time, for the match against Northamptonshire, but, so distant from the place described did the ground seem to me, that it was as though I was in Sidcup High Street reading a holiday brochure for Bali.

I fear I may be about to undo some of the good work achieved by this newspaper's cricket correspondent in relations with Kent, for it was his glowing assessment of the St Lawrence Ground which, quite by chance, I stumbled upon.

On a summer's day, when an important match is being played, the ground is apparently a delight and caters well for members and other supporters. On the first day of the championship, I met the rogue twin.

This day was cold and, the more I walked the ground to keep warm, the more dissatisfied I became. It was not ready, to my mind, for the first-day-of-the-championship customer. I wanted a programme but was told by the scorecard seller they were available only for Sunday matches. A handbook, then? "Try next door," he said. I did, but on the door was a notice: "Sorry, annuals not yet available." Nor was satisfactory catering.

Lucky's Bar was not serving lunches while improvements took place and the alternatives were limited. There was the snack bar (no seats and awful tea) or the small Gallery restaurant (where I chickened out of complaining that my food was barely warm because the waitress was helpful, making a special journey to the kitchen opposite to

order me a vegetarian dish). No doubt catering and comfort for members are adequate, but I could find nowhere for the casual spectator to escape the cold in cheerful surroundings.

A quick-fire knock is as good as a whisky to warm the shivering fan and Allan Lamb poured a double with his half-century for Northamptonshire in an hour just after

David Powell laments the lack of a warm welcome for cricket followers at Canterbury

lunch. But he was bowled on 54 and, for the next four hours until the close, the game delivered more safety shots than Jimmy White in a lifetime of snooker.

At times, Northamptonshire resembled workmen leaning on their shovels, resting rather than building. Richard Montgomerie was at the crease all day for an unbeaten 113 in a total of 343 for five, the last 171 in partnership with David Capel. This was obdurate, not warming, cricket.

Not a ball was missed by the publican from Ramsgate with whom I spoke during the tea interval and whose hobby is keeping a meticulous scorebook. He is not a member and had access only to the same facilities as I. Not a word of complaint from him, though.

His concentration was as unbroken as Montgomerie's. Not once did I see him out of his seat. He neither knew nor cared, probably, about the foul snack-bar tea and spent most of the interval still in his seat, seemingly oblivious to the cold, telling me of his passion for keeping score.

It was nice, he said, to have a record of the days when Kent won things. Yes, this had been a hobby before Kent's

last trophy win which was, he said, in 1978. I asked him for his favourite memories and he related how Cowdrey had taken 201 off the Australians, Lilley and Thomson included, when Kent needed 369 on the last day to win, and recalled Underwood taking 15 wickets in a match at Folkestone.

He was optimistic that Kent had a chance in the championship this season, provided they did not suffer an injury toll as heavy as last summer. Much will depend on De Silva, Kent's newly-acquired Sri Lankan batsman, who kept his hands in his pockets most of the day. If he bats with similar common sense, Kent will not be disappointed.

The ice-cream man found customers almost as hard to come by as Kent did wickets. By 5pm, he had sold only 15, compared with more than 500 on a decent day. An hour later he was gone and the snack bar, restaurant and shop were closed. The only place to go for refreshment or warmth while the last overs were played out, with the crowd of some 500 down to 100 or so, was Lucky's Bar. There the Britannic Assurance sticker proclaimed, "Cricket, lovely cricket". Appropriately, on this day of low temperatures, it was stuck to the fridge door.

WHAT IT COSTS

Admission: £5.00  
Food & drink: £3.00 (Sausages, cheese and biscuits, wine, coffee)  
Total: £8.00  
Return rail fare: £12.50  
Programme: 50p  
Scorecard: 25p

## Conway prospers as England score at will

ENGLAND'S under-21 hockey team enjoyed easy victories over the weekend in the qualifying tournament for the Junior European Nations Cup in Genoa (Sydney Friskin writes). A 4-0 win over Portugal yesterday followed the 9-1 defeat of Gibraltar on Saturday.

Yesterday, Conway scored twice from open play for England who led 3-0 at half-time. The other goals came from Wallis and Everett's short corner.

On Saturday, Daniel Santiago scored within three minutes for Gibraltar but they could not stop the landslide which began in the ninth minute. By half-time, England were 4-1 ahead. Conway and Stamp scored from short corners and Fordham and Conway added two more from

open play. More goals followed in the second half from Mathews, two from Hall and two more by Conway from short corners.

At home, Cheshire and Essex survived the two remaining preliminary round matches in the under-21 county championship.

At Canterbury, Essex recovered to beat Kent 2-1 after Swan had given Kent the lead in the 25th minute. Jenkins replied for Essex with goals in the 61st and 63rd minutes.

At Portsmouth, Cheshire defeated the Royal Navy 3-0. Hornby (twice) and Storey scored. Cheshire and Essex join Nottinghamshire and Gloucestershire in the semi-finals at Portsmouth on May 20.

Results, page 32

## Conner's crew switches yachts

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

DENNIS CONNER, the winner of the America's Cup defence trials, has chosen to retire his own *Stars & Stripes* yacht and take over Kevin Mahaney's marmalade-painted *Young America* for the best-of-five race series against New Zealand commencing off San Diego next Saturday.

The swap is allowed under a controversial ruling made a month ago by the America's Cup trustees committee, made up of representatives from the New York Yacht Club, Royal Perth Yacht Club and the San Diego Yacht Club, who decreed that "the defending club may select its defending yacht from the finalists of the Citizen Cup".

Conner's crew, having test-sailed *Young America* for the first time on Saturday, is convinced that she is the faster

boat but remains concerned at the short time available to get accustomed to her.

"If we had to race today, we wouldn't be ready," Tom Whidden, Conner's veteran tactician explained, adding: "The deck layout and cockpit are quite different, but the technical programmes above the deck are identical. The one risk is that we don't sail *Young America* to her full potential."

A question remains over the sails Conner will use. Each syndicate is limited to 45 sails for the five-month trials, and the *Young America* team has used up far more of its allocation than Conner's cash-strapped *Stars & Stripes* group.

If the four-time Cup winner presses a claim to transfer the *Stars & Stripes* allowance to *Young America*, then their

New Zealand rivals are sure to protest. The two sides are already at loggerheads over the terms of the match which have to be agreed by mutual consent or revert to a three-race series as set out in the 100-year-old Deed of Gift governing the Cup.

Concerned that the New Zealanders appear to have a speed advantage over *Young America*, the San Diego defence committee remains insistent that Conner should be allowed to re-configure his newly-acquired yacht between races.

The New Zealanders are equally insistent that once the first race starts, the yachts are locked into a no-change period as they have been throughout both the defence and challenger trials. The matter is now before the trustees.

## Kingussie stride into shinty final

By Coll MacDougall

KINGUSSIE marched into the final of this year's Scottish shinty championship for the seventh time in the decade when they brushed aside Fort William, the team that denied them a place in the final of the Keyline MacAulay Cup a month ago.

Only some superb goalkeeping by Graeme MacMillan prevented his Fort William's defeat from being much larger than 3-1, but it was he who gifted Kingussie their first successful strike. As Ally Borthwick powered towards goal, MacMillan brought him down within the circle, leaving Brian Davis, the referee, no option but to award a penalty. This was converted by Ronald Ross, the man of the match.

After the interval, Kingussie appeared reinvigorated, with Dave Anderson shaving the post in the first minute. After James Clark had been booked for felling Ally Borthwick, Anderson's free hit went to Ross, who fired in a rocket from the edge of the circle.

Play, which had never reached the heights that it should have for the penulti-

mate stage of the Glenmorangie Camanachd Cup, became even scrappier with Neil Robertson and Scott MacNeil being booked for petty fouling. Then, unexpectedly, Fort William brought themselves back into contention with a goal that would have been spectacular had it been intended but was really a combination of two mishits by Victor Smith and Willie MacDonald, the latter's random fall falling behind Ian Anderson, the Kingussie goalkeeper.

This fired them up only briefly. Ross latched on to a skilfully-placed free hit from Michael Clark to defeat MacMillan with his sixtieth goal of the season.

RESULTS: Glenmorangie Camanachd Cup: Semi-final: Fort William 1 Kingussie 3. Volein Premier Cup: First round: Kinlochshiel 1 Capercaiz 2; Bullough Cup: First round: Bute 2 Glasgow University 0. Edinburgh University velfover Kilrony. Tayforth velfover St Andrews University. MacAulay Cup: First round: Kyle Athletic 0 Conn Celtic 3; Bank of Scotland Glasgow Celtic Society Cup: Semi-final: Glasgow Celtic Society 2; Celtic Society 2. Marine Harvest League: North: Second division: Kinross 5 Southglaze 1. Third division: Stenly 3 Newtongrange 1. Fort William 1 Lovat 1. Shire velfover Aberdeen University Fourth division: Kinross 4 Lochbroom 1. South: First division: Balachulish 2 Oban Celtic 4; Strachur 0 Inveraray 4. Third division: Inveraray 1 Balachulish 1.

Results, page 32

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# Supporters not sold on Chase's policies

Norwich City..... 1  
Liverpool..... 2

By IVO TENNANT

THE piped popular music was pitched so loud at half-time as to drown even the most raucous of protests at Carrow Road. Outside the ground, after another defeat and with relegation all but certified, it was a different matter. There was no withholding around 1,000 of Norwich City's supporters and the abuse they hurled at a chairman they regard as a pariah. Robert Chase, who insists that his position is not an issue, knew what was coming on Saturday. He is aware that, even in supposedly tranquil East Anglia, supporters have little interest in books being balanced if the team is being dismantled before them. It is no use Chase saying there is no likelihood of Chris Sutton leaving the club, and then promptly demonstrating that such words are worthless.

Chase said that if Norwich are relegated from the FA Carling Premiership (it is more a matter of when), his plans for the club would be set back by only a season. And yet that is to suppose that they will be promoted straight away, having presumably shed one or two more of their better players.

This is indeed a presumption. Other than ten arrests, nothing came of the demonstrations, just as nothing came of Norwich's wholehearted and punchy football. They could not match Liverpool for measured passing, but there was a spirit about their game that deserved more.

"We are still in with a fighting chance of avoiding relegation," Gary Megson, their latest manager, insisted, but he must have known he was living out a pipedream.

At times, Norwich harried Liverpool out of their eternal neat triangles, but there was manifestly a difference in class. Redknapp and McMan-

aman would toy with the Norwich defence, envisaging the moment for the angled through-ball.

An opening of a different kind came as early as the seventh minute, when Thomas, more a full back than a defensive midfielder, found Rush with a long ball from the right wing. It broke to Harkness, who scored his first goal of the season.

When Redknapp struck the crossbar with a curled, direct free kick five minutes later, one sensed that Liverpool were reckoning this was not much of a contest. They looked a little self-satisfied, and one or two of them — notably Barnes — markedly sluggish.

Soon, Ullathorne swept in a cross that Sutch had whipped across the penalty area and Liverpool's three centre backs. Now, Norwich had a semblance of control. Alkinbiyi had two opportunities, one a header and the other a volley. Later, Ward slipped through a tentative defence and shot over the bar.

It was illusory: Liverpool regained their poise and reverted to that precise interpassing which often stretches the width of the pitch and back again.

There were six minutes remaining when James collected a long ball and sent McManaman scampering away with a throw flicked from his body as if returning to the wicketkeeper. McManaman's spindly legs took him clear of Norwich's defenders and, when his shot was parried by Marshall, Rush was in the ideal position to stab the ball past the goalkeeper. Norwich, who had taken the field to *Land of Hope and Glory*, left it to their sixth successive defeat and the din of disturbed supporters.

**NORWICH CITY (4-4-2):** A Marshall — C Boothby (sub: J Carson, 75min), J Newson, J Poston, M Bowen — D Sutch, I Crook, M Milgani, R Ullathorne (sub: N Adams, 80) — A Ward, A Alkinbiyi. **LIVERPOOL (2-4-1-2):** D James — J Scates, M Wright, P Sabin — M Thomas, J Redknapp, J Barnes (sub: N Clough, 60), Harkness — S McManaman — I Rush, R Fowler (sub: M Walters, 84). Referee: S Hill.

# Palmer leaves Villa tottering nearer the abyss

Peter Ball believes  
relegation is a real  
possibility after a 1-0  
defeat at Leeds United

ONE of football's great glories is the way a flash of high drama can suddenly appear in even the most turgid matches. For 87 minutes at Elland Road on Saturday, Leeds United and Aston Villa were apparently heading towards an inevitable, drab 0-0 draw; by the time the final whistle blew, a little over three minutes later, Aston Villa had had their goalkeeper sent off and Carlton Palmer, of all unlikely people, had scored a breathtaking goal.

"It was tough on us not to take something away from the game," Brian Little, the Villa manager, said afterwards. Tough — and ominous too. Villa had dropped even closer to the bottom four, one point above the danger line that separates survival from relegation.

In his days at Sheffield Wednesday, Palmer was described by Ron Atkinson as "the worst finisher since Dev-on Loch". Nothing in his subsequent record has done

Full results and league tables Page 28

anything to change that description, so when Palmer hits the ball past your substitute goalkeeper with a ferocity that Peter Lorimer, Elland Road's former cannon-ball specialist, would have been proud of, you know your luck is right out.

Not that Bosnich, the original Villa goalkeeper, would have saved it. It is doubtful if Bosnich and Spink, his replacement, together could have stopped it, but the loss of a man might finally have opened things up a little. "We were getting a little bit tired and the last thing we needed at that stage was to lose a player," Little said.

Palmer, who, for 87 minutes, had had one of his usual industrious matches with little to show for it, was the central figure in the drama from the moment he burst clear on Gary Kelly's long pass. His touch let him down and his attempt to recover the ball led him into a last desperate lunge, the attempt



Yeboah, of Leeds, hurdles the sliding challenge of Teale, the Aston Villa defender, during their encounter at Elland Road on Saturday

taking Teale's legs as the defender shepherded the ball to safety.

Another moment of mediocrity in a game full of them, but Bosnich got involved totally unnecessarily. Shoves were exchanged before Ehioy and the immaculate McGrath calmed Palmer down.

In another match, it might have all passed off virtually unnoticed. On Saturday, the referee, David Elleray, who had as poor a game as most of the players, decided to notice and booked both players — with disastrous consequences for Bosnich, who had already

been booked for time-wasting, and for his side.

Little protested that the dismissal was unjust. Perhaps, but Bosnich's history of escaping punishment, with a reckless challenge on Kinsman earlier this season standing out, meant that, outside the Villa dressing room, there was little sympathy.

Even more ominously for Villa, they deserved better. Had a visitor been told that one side was pressing for a Uefa Cup place, the other to avoid the drop, he would have been hard-pressed to decide

which was which, and, in the first half, would probably have leant towards Villa as the team with high ambitions, only two quite stunning saves by Lukic denying them.

"Villa were magnificent at times," Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, said, overstating his case a little. "They got behind the ball quickly, they broke out very, very well and we weren't playing well. I said to them at half-time: 'You've got to keep at it.'"

Whatever their failings, Leeds do keep at it, as Blackburn also found to their cost

recently, and Palmer seized the moment when it came. That is the sort of thing that happens to sides on their way down.

Even worse for Villa, it is tempting to say they looked too good to go down. Faithful words, as Nottingham Forest and Sheffield Wednesday can both testify. A record of only one goal in eight games — and that courtesy of an opposition defender — speaks for itself.

Yet, on Saturday's performance they not only look too good to go down to the Endsleigh Insurance League

but, unlike Forest and Sheffield Wednesday in past years, are fighting spiritedly to avoid the drop.

With home games against Manchester City and Liverpool, and a visit to Norwich City, who already look doomed, there are reasons for optimism at Villa Park. But no cause yet for self-congratulation.

**LEEDS UNITED (4-5-1):** J Lukic — G Kelly, D Wetherall, J Pennington, A Dorog — R Wallace, G McAlister, C Palmer, G Speed, S Durrant — A Yobchell. **ASTON VILLA (5-4-1):** M Bosnich — G Charles, U Ehioy, P McGrath, S Teale, A Wright — D Saunders, I Taylor, A Townsend (sub: G Fenton, 84min), S Staunton — D York (sub: N Spink, 87). Referee: D Elleray.

# Goodison repeat short of drama

Everton..... 0  
Wimbledon..... 0

By ALYSON RUDD

HOW do theatres do it? Same plot, same actors, every night, every matinee. Yet the participants behave as if they have never uttered the lines before, never anticipated the dénouement.

Football stadiums cannot do it. The drama of Wimbledon's visit to Goodison Park on the final day of last season left players and spectators drained with the drama and emotion of it all. Everton had to win, trailed by two goals and then, remarkably, scored three to save their season. Grown men wept.

The repeat on Saturday was no less vital, but it was stale fare. Any actor will tell you you have to work hard to look fresh. At Goodison, the players worked hard to look workmanlike.

Everton's recent success, particularly in

the FA Cup, has come through intimidation with style. On Saturday, they offered neither. They were over-elaborate in the area and, while Hinchcliffe was as threatening as ever at set-pieces, Wimbledon outguessed him at every corner, Sullivan the first to every cross.

Since his promotion from the youth team, Sullivan has been impressive in goal for Wimbledon. Not even Ablett's speculative, but horribly swerving, job from just inside Wimbledon's half flustered him.

Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, is, with his lawyers, considering a restraint of trade defence against his six-month touchline ban. This is ironic. After 90 minutes of combat against Wimbledon, many clubs feel as though they have suffered some form of restraint of trade, so boisterous and suffocating are the south London club's tactics. They are tactics that work, however, and Kinnear contemplated another top-six place in the FA Carling Premiership, "which is like

winning the league for us". Meanwhile, Everton played as if wired up to the local radio station. So many of the other key relegation tussles were going their way, the adrenalin just would not pump. Ian Rush was the darling of Goodison after his winning goal against Norwich City and Leeds was a nice place for a fortnight's holiday after Aston Villa's defeat at Elland Road.

No, the dramatic finale for Everton this year looks certain to be saved for Wembley on May 20. Joe Royle's team still have to secure some extra points but, as Royle pointed out, Villa have to play Norwich and "they both can't win it, can they?"

If they could, that would be some twist in the tale.

**EVERTON (4-4-3):** N Southall — E Barnett, D Watson, D Unsworth, G Ablett — A Linper (sub: P Rhoads, 45min), B Horne, J Parkinson, A Hinchcliffe — G Stuart, D Armstrong. **WIMBLEDON (4-5-2):** N Sullivan — A Cunningham, A Thom (sub: C Perry, 20), A Reeves, A Kinnear — P Frier, J Jones, G Shute, G Leachman — E Ekoku (sub: J Goodman 69), D Holdsworth. Referee: P Dorrain.

# New firm fails for lack of funds

A fixture is about to be refurbished. When Aberdeen and Dundee United meet at Pittodrie on Saturday, all the old passion and significance of their contests in the Eighties will be present once more. In 1995, however, the great public interest in the outcome is moribund. It is likely that the losers will be relegated automatically. In their heyday, a dozen years ago, Aberdeen and Dundee United were called the New Firm. The passage of time has demonstrated the term to be perfectly inappropriate.

Celtic and Rangers were sardonically christened the Old Firm at the start of the century, when one observer noticed how conveniently profitable fierce animosity was to both parties. The Glasgow behemoths have always been partners as much as rivals.

The Old Firm title implied that this was a substantial business concern, capable of pounding its way successfully down the decades through sheer force of cash, even though the names of players and managers might change. The achievements of Aberdeen and Dundee United have never had about them that whiff of economic certainty.

Each is carefully run, soundly financed but lacking

KEVIN MCCARRA



Scottish commentary

the kind of audience that would allow them to spend even £1 million on a player. In consequence, success is never ground out in the Old Firm manner. These two clubs depend on sudden eruptions of talent. In the Eighties, there were great geysers of ability gushing at Pittodrie and Tannadice.

Two extraordinary managers, Alex Ferguson and Jim McLean, were in charge of superior sets of players. Aberdeen, the larger club, pulled off the greater feats, but United were good enough to play in the 1987 Uefa Cup final. If everyone had not been so caught up in joy, though, we might have worried about the aftermath of glory.

It was never possible for such standards to be maintained in such places. Aberdeen, tormented by the memory of grandeur, are now on their fourth manager since

the departure of Ferguson in 1986. At United there has, by contrast, been a questionable stability. After 22 years in the job, McLean stepped down in 1993 but he remains as chairman. His successor as manager, Ivan Golac, was forced out of the club in March.

There has been ridiculous speculation that the relationship between the men stopped just short of fistfights, scarcely any overt conflict occurred at all. Instead, Golac, by his own account, simply felt himself deprived of the necessary authority. Too many decisions, he complained, had to be endorsed by the board.

McLean, of course, may well have decided that the judgment of the idiosyncratic Golac could not be trusted. It is the job of Billy Kirkwood, the new manager, to operate with the kind of effectiveness that ensures he cannot be denied control. Both he and Roy Aitken, his counterpart at Pittodrie, must cut the past down to size.

On Saturday, Aberdeen did manage to bring some vibrancy to the present. Billy Dodds scored twice at Tynecastle, his second coming five minutes from the end, to beat Heart of Midlothian 2-1. Aberdeen played with all the nervous energy of a truly frightened man. Even after this victory, they remain

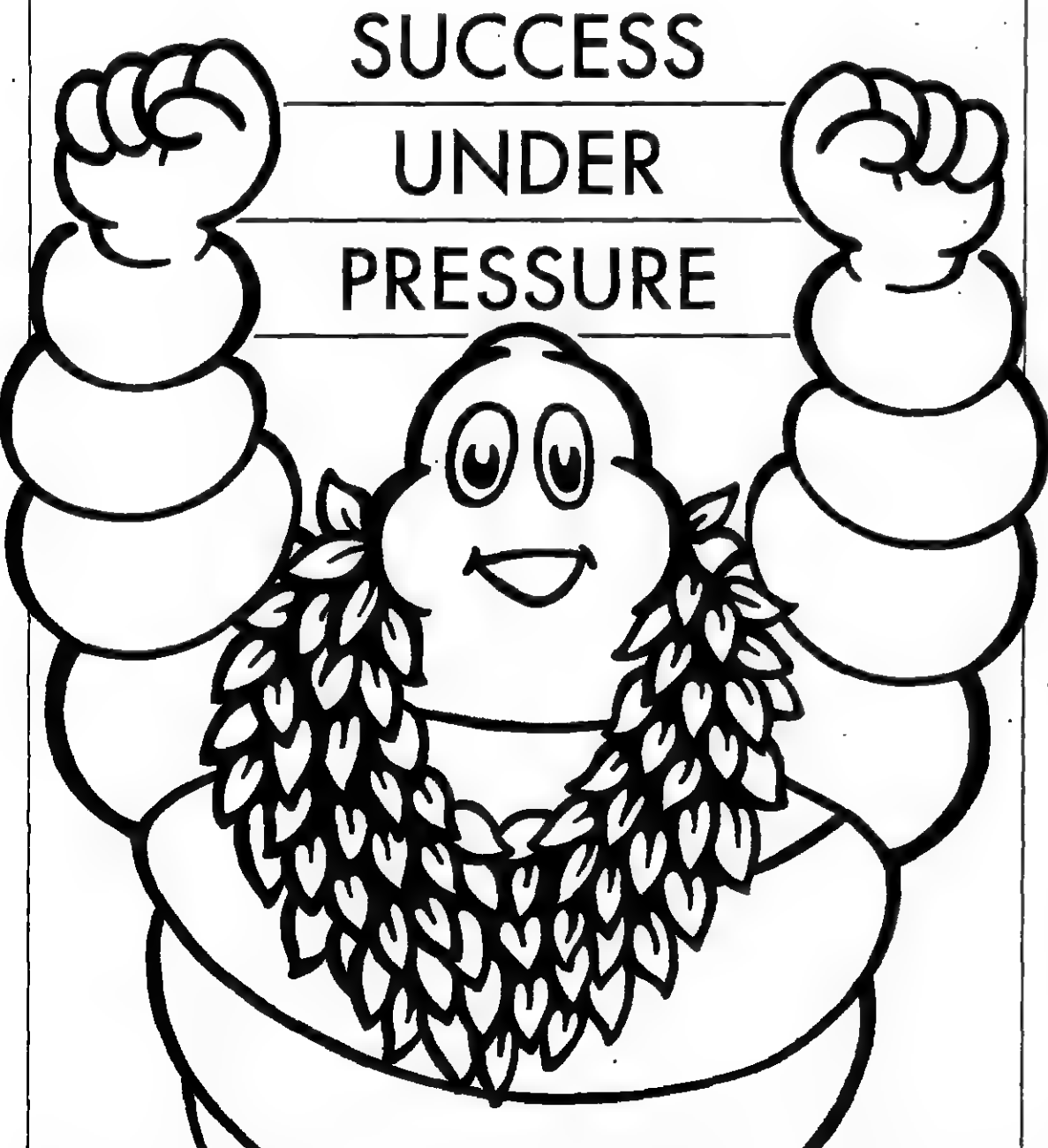
bottom of the table, a point behind the Tannadice club. Aitken himself holds his post on a caretaker basis, having succeeded Willie Miller in February, and, despite some painful results, including a Tennents Scottish Cup defeat at Stenhousemuir, it is persistently suggested that he will be given the job on a permanent basis.

In frantic days, there is a craving for stability. The players talk contentedly of Aitken, eager to believe that he is about to restore order at a club whose stability is embodied in a 92-year history without relegation. So the manager is praised for improving morale and sharpening training.

This may all be true. It is also, however, a sign that there could be advantages for Aitken and Kirkwood in taking their jobs at the worst time. The team, supporters and directors will all be grateful for any improvement these men can bring after a season of dismay. Aitken must at most relish next Saturday's match. Victory will, illogically or not, make him a hero in Aberdeen, conferring the prestige a manager needs to be sure of getting his own way. Naturally, a win would carry exactly the same value for Kirkwood.

At Pittodrie next weekend, the two men will wrestle over the one available miracle.

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How would Celtic Swing, the new wonder horse, fare against the cream of previous generations?

# The race begins for a place in classic history



Four of the great postwar 2,000 Guineas winners: El Gran Senor (1984, left), Nijinsky (1970, upper centre), Brigadier Gerard (1971, lower centre) and Dancing Brave (1986). Who will prove best of these champions, over a mile?

**W**elcome to Newmarket on this historic day which sees the greatest race staged at the headquarters of flat racing. The post-war 2,000 Guineas has brought together the finest field of classic milers imaginable and will help to answer a question which hovers above any sport — who is the greatest of them all?

The ten runners have been selected by *Timeform*, the internationally-respected racing analysts based in Halifax, and include the outstanding winners of the 2,000 Guineas during the past half century — ranging from Tudor Minstrel in 1947 to Zafonic in 1993. Completing the line-up is Celtic Swing, who is already being called a "wonder horse" and is odds-on for the 1995 running of the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket on Saturday.

Just how good is the unbeaten colt, trained at Angmering Park by Lady Herries and owned by Peter Savill? Does he merit the hype and, more importantly, how would he stand up against the best of previous generations?



**Richard Evans sets the scene for the Race of Legends. Tomorrow: the race, with commentary by Peter O'Sullivan**

Brigadier Gerard beat Mill Reef handsomely by three lengths here in 1971, and during an outstanding career won 17 of his 18 starts over distances ranging from five to 12 furlongs. By any standards, a great horse. An offer of £250,000 from Daniel Wildenstein was rejected by connections prior to his three-year-old career and the powerful colt came to Newmarket for the 2,000 Guineas without a preparatory race, unlike My Swallow, a 2-1 shot, and Mill Reef, the 6-4 favourite. Starting at 11-2 in the first single-figure field this century — only six runners went to post — Brigadier Gerard tracked his better-fancied rivals before being set alight by Joe Mercer running into the Dip.

Celtic Swing is the best two-year-old to run in Britain since the

official classifications began in 1977 and his record-breaking 12-length victory in last year's Racing Post Trophy prompted *Timeform* to say he was "comparable with the best we've seen".

Dancing Brave showed himself a brilliant miler, quickening clear in the manner of El Gran Senor, when winning here in 1986. Ridden by Greville Starkey, he established his mastery in a matter of strides and stormed up the hill to win by three lengths from Green Desert. The best horse never to win the Derby, he went on to win the Eclipse, the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes and the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

El Gran Senor, ridden by Pat Eddery, beat one of the best 2,000 Guineas fields when he had Chief

Singer, Lear Fan and Rainbow Quest in his immediate wake in 1984. Vincent O'Brien, trainer of Robert Sangster's Northern Dancer colt, placed the performance on a par with that of Nijinsky and Sir Ivor. During an eight-race career he met with defeat only once, when just failing to stay the Derby trip.

Nijinsky, the last winner of the Triple Crown, towered above his contemporaries and was one of the best Derby winners since the war. Sent off at 7-4 on for the 2,000 Guineas in 1970, he moved majestically to the start and returned every bit as impressively to score unextended from Yellow God. Perhaps, the best horse Lester Piggott has ridden.

Nosaleo arguably never received the credit he deserved, winning all but two of his nine starts over a mile or less and there were genuine excuses for both defeats. Ridden here in 1974 by Yves Saint-Martin, the François Boutin-trained colt felled the 9-4 on chance, Apalachee, with a finishing

burst which confirmed him to be a top-class miler.

Sir Ivor wintered in Italy before his three-year-old career and in 1968 turned out to be the best 2,000 Guineas winner for many a year. According to *Timeform*, his achievement was one of the most remarkable in that his jockey (Lester Piggott) rode in a manner which suggested almost complete disdain for the quality of the opposition. He went on to win the Derby, Champion Stakes and Washington International.

Tudor Minstrel, ridden by Gordon Richards, put up an unforgettable display here in 1947, with a time performance to match. Officially the winning margin was eight lengths; according to Phil Bull, founder of *Timeform*, it was nearer ten or 11. The Fred Darling-trained colt could be named the winner at halfway, making all the running and never being out of a canter as those behind tried in vain to keep tabs on the leader. "A world-beater," according to Bull, between five and seven furlongs, but his stamina limitations made him vulnerable beyond a mile.

Zafonic, described by André Fabre as the best two-year-old he had trained, lived up to his reputation here in 1993 when winning the 2,000 Guineas in the style of an exceptional performer. Definitely at his best on fast ground, he produced a magnificent burst of speed in a race run at a blistering gallop to win by three and a half lengths from Barathas, the subsequent Irish 2,000 Guineas winner. Sadly, he was retired after his next race, the Sussex Stakes, where he was found to have broken a blood vessel.



Celtic Swing has an early chance to do battle with the best

- 1. BOLKONSKI**  
Year: 1975  
Owner: C d'Aleale  
Trainer: G Cecil  
Jockey: G Dettori
- 2. BRIGADIER GERARD**  
Year: 1971  
Owner: Mrs J Halop  
Trainer: W Hen  
Jockey: J Mercer
- 3. CELTIC SWING**  
Year: 1995  
Owner: P Savill  
Trainer: Lady Herries  
Jockey: K Darley
- 4. DANCING BRAVE**  
Year: 1986  
Owner: K Abdulla  
Trainer: G Hawes  
Jockey: G Starkey

- 5. EL GRAN SENOR**  
Year: 1984  
Owner: R Sangster  
Trainer: M V O'Brien (ire)  
Jockey: Pat Eddery
- 6. NIJINSKY**  
Year: 1970  
Owner: C W Engelhard  
Trainer: M V O'Brien (ire)  
Jockey: L Piggott
- 7. SIR IVOR**  
Year: 1968  
Owner: R Guest  
Trainer: M V O'Brien (ire)  
Jockey: L Piggott
- 8. TUDOR MINSTREL**  
Year: 1947  
Owner: J A Dewar  
Trainer: F Darling  
Jockey: G Richards

- 9. NOSALEO**  
Year: 1974  
Owner: Mme M Barqur  
Trainer: R Boutin (fr)  
Jockey: Y Saint-Martin
  - 10. ZAFONIC**  
Year: 1993  
Owner: K Abdulla  
Trainer: A Fabre (fr)  
Jockey: Pat Eddery
- LAURENCE'S BETTING**
- 7-2: Tudor Minstrel  
4-1: El Gran Senor  
9-2: Sir Ivor  
6-1: Brigadier Gerard, Nijinsky  
5-1: Zafonic  
10-1: Dancing Brave  
14-1: Celtic Swing  
18-1: Bolkonski  
25-1: Nosaleo

Leading article, page 17

## Brentford bow to pressure

"It's not a smile, it's a grimace, and, by this time, it's caked on," was about the best David Webb, the Brentford manager, could say after his side had been beaten for the second time in four days. Losing to Birmingham City on Wednesday had all but dashed his team's chances of automatic promotion to the first division of the Endleigh Insurance League and the defeat on Saturday simply emphasised it.

Still, Webb is a cheery soul. In a fraught match of five bookings, four of them for Bournemouth, he was not looking for excuses. "I can't be disappointed with anything, we've had our chances but we've just got to look at ourselves," he said. "It was our own fault. The quality is still there but we defended badly and made mistakes that we're not used to making. We're doing things the hard way."

More than 10,000 nervous faces turned up at Griffin Park to see whether Brentford could at least keep the pressure on Birmingham at the top of the table and whether the Bournemouth could clamber out of the relegation mire at the bottom.

**Alix Ramsay watches the play-offs loom after a 2-1 defeat by Bournemouth**

Fear was the order of the day as both sides needed to win, but were terrified to lose. Nobody wanted to be the one to make the fatal mistake.

As a result, the first half was a miserable affair with Bournemouth scared to leave their own half and Brentford wary in front of goal. If you do not shoot, nobody can accuse you of missing.

Suddenly, though, ten minutes into the second half, Bournemouth changed the rules. A duff header out of defence and Mean found the ball at his feet. Before he had time to worry about the consequences, he cracked in a shot from 25 yards and Bournemouth were ahead.

As the desperation set in, Brentford flung everything towards the Bournemouth goal. Webb swapped Stephenson, who had tried to create chances from midfield but had little reward, for Munde, who likes a more direct approach. The

reshuffle awoke the troops and, at last, there was a game to watch. As the tempers began to fray, Abrahams, who had looked the most likely source of profit for Brentford all afternoon, equalised with a snap volley that made its way through at least one pair of legs before beating Andrews in goal.

Getting back on level terms, however, did little to settle the nerves and it was Ashby who cracked first. Left flat-footed as Jones ran rings round him, he was perfectly placed to admire the Bournemouth man's shot as it flew over Dearden and into the net.

In the four minutes of stoppage time, Brentford won six corners but could do nothing with them. As the Bournemouth supporters began a chant of "staying up, staying up", the Brentford faithful realised they were on their way to Wembley — hardly the place for those of a nervous disposition.

**BRENTFORD (4-4-2):** Dearden — C Hutchings, B Astley, J Bates, S Sheehan — P Adams, S Pegg, P Smith, P Stephenson (sub D Munde, 62), R Taylor, N Foster (sub D McGhee, 62). **BOURNMOUTH (4-4-2):** Andrews — R Murray, M Morris, N Young (sub M McShane, 53), R Beardmore — A Penrock, S Robinson (sub M Holland, 71), S Meen, J Bussell — S Fletcher, S Joyce. Referee: A Butler.

## Contract offer to Klinsmann

**TOTTENHAM** Hotspur are ready to offer Jürgen Klinsmann, the Football Writers' Association's footballer of the year, a new deal to keep him at White Hart Lane for another season. It will be enough, the club hopes, to see off competition for his services from Bayern Munich and a clutch of leading Italian clubs.

Klinsmann scored the late equaliser that frustrated Arsenal in a 1-1 draw at Highbury on Saturday, but then refused to commit himself any further to Tottenham, other than saying that he plans to discuss his future with Alan Sugar, the chairman, and Gerry Francis, the manager, when the season is over. Francis and Sugar are not prepared to wait that long.

"Alan and I will be sitting down with Jürgen within the next few days," Francis said. "I'm optimistic he will stay." Klinsmann, who joined Tottenham from AS Monaco for £2 million last summer, has a year of his contract still to run at White Hart Lane, but a "get-out" clause in it has alerted other clubs to the chance of signing him.

## Knighton leads the celebration

**RARELY** can a championship have been secured on the back of such a mediocre performance as this, and yet never can a chairman's joy at victory have been so unrestrained. Show Michael Knighton a pitch and, it seems, he feels compelled to run onto it, but few were begrudging him his leap over the perimeter wall at Layer Road on Saturday.

Knighton, who liked Manchester United so much he tried to buy the company but who ended up with Carlisle United instead, had spent the closing ten minutes crouched behind the bench where Mick Wadsworth, the coach, sat with legs crossed, lead under threat and nerves frayed. Carlisle, 16 points clear at one stage, were trying to fall over the finishing line, and with the final whistle came the Endleigh Insurance League third division title and an explosion of emotion.

Knighton high-fived and hugged everybody from centre forward to steward, before allowing himself to be carried on the shoulders of Carlisle's jubilant followers. Predictable stuff perhaps from a man not averse to a spot of publicity, but his passion for the game cannot be

**Keith Pike sees Carlisle United crowned after a 1-0 victory at Colchester United**

doubted, either. Whether juggling a ball in front of the Stretford End or juggling finances at Brunton Park, Knighton seems to do everything with an engagingly eccentric flourish — and a camera crew not far behind.

"We will be partying all the way back to Carlisle and then for several weeks," Knighton said. "I expect to be comatose by the time I get off the coach." It is hard to imagine Jack Walker or Sir Jack Hayward saying the same, but then there is no law that says the expanding breed of independently wealthy backers of football clubs have to be reclusive. Knighton may not be in their league, and will not simply throw money at Carlisle, but, if he keeps his wallet tucked away, he does wear his heart on his sleeve.

Neither do many of them have Knighton's ability to lurch from boyish enthusiasm to Churchillian

gravitas via cliché and mixed metaphor either. "I said to the team that if Stephen Hendry can get 147 points in 11 minutes, then we can get three in 90," he said. "I am so pleased for everyone, they have deserved it over the season, but I was worried because it is never over until you have heard the final whistle and today we have potted the black. This is my finest hour." Precisely.

This was probably not the weekend to remind Knighton that he sees Norwich City as the role model for smaller clubs, but then he is aiming higher than that anyway. As Reeves' 58th-minute header earned a highly fortuitous victory over Colchester, it was hard to share Knighton's vision for Carlisle — a place in the European Cup, a packed, modern stadium and the world's best youth scheme, all by 2002 — but harder still to knock him for trying.

**COLCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2):** C Emberson — M Kresla, A McCarthy, G Goss, P Coker — C Fry, A Dennis, T Putney, R Rennie (sub C Anzob, 68min) — M Cheetham, S Whiston. **CARLISLE UNITED (4-3-3):** A Cain — D Edmondson, D Walling, J Robinson, A Galloway — P Conway, S Hayward, R Prokes — R Thomas (sub J Thorpe, 57), D Reeves, D Currie (sub J Joyce, 78). Referee: S Dunn.







# Wigan thrive in a league of their own

Leeds.....10  
Wigan.....30

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE Wigan phenomenon is no accident. Work ethic is at its heart. Graeme West, their coach, said as the rugby league Silk Cut Challenge Cup was whisked past him down the Wembley tunnel on Saturday, safe in the hands of a smiling club director for an eighth successive year.

In 12 months as coach, West has won everything there is to win. "It's great to be part of Wigan Rugby League Club," he said. "We've got a good set-up, good directors, good players, good coaching staff, and everybody is pulling in the right direction. And that's for the future as well."

He reeled off names of those not involved — Radlinski, O'Connor and Mather — and others, such as Houghton, Murdoch and Long, who were waiting in the wings.

Chairmen meet.....Page 25

Perhaps the sooner there is a second team of this stature, the better, because competitive rivalry is nearly extinct.

How a bigger Super League for next March is going to resolve the problem, which a smaller, elite grouping was originally meant to, baffles Denis Betts. "Where you are supposed to get improved quality by having the first division and retaining it the Super League, in effect, is beyond me," Betts, who later this month leaves for Auckland Warriors after nine years with Wigan, said.

The only spur the rest have left, and then a pretty uninspirational one, is the Premiership competition, the fourth part of a grand slam that has eluded Wigan thus far. Maybe, if Leeds had done more on Saturday than turn up, it might have been the kind of awakening Wigan experienced on beating Hull in the 1985 final. It was that taste of success, after a 20-year drought, that Wigan, then under West's captaincy, enjoyed. A decade later,

the monster, magnificent though it is, is only out of control because the resignation and lack of ambition at other clubs has allowed it.

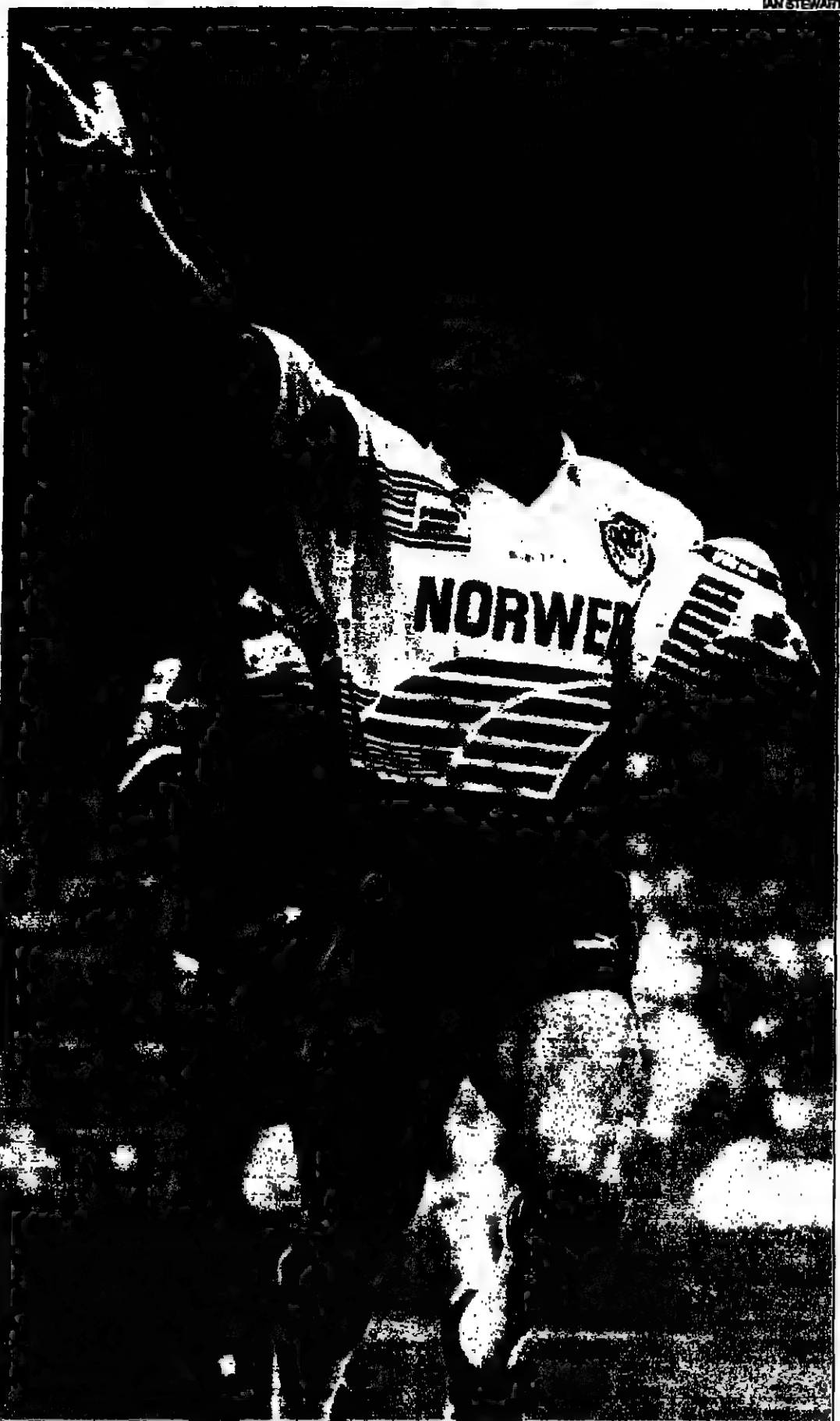
Leeds are no Luddites; indeed, they have responded to the off-field challenge from Wigan by moving full-time and investing heavily in youth and development. But a capacity to disappoint has become an immutable law of Leeds and the big occasion. Wigan might have been distracted by thoughts of Monopoly money, loyalty deals and defections to Australia in the preceding week, but it was no reason for Leeds to expect the trophy gift-wrapped.

Jason Robinson and Shaun Edwards were the main architects of a highly professional victory. Edwards, the scrum half, controlled the game from hand and foot with cunning precision, at one mesmerizing point sending an arcing pass fully 20 yards to prise Leeds open for Paul to spin away from Tait for the second of Wigan's five tries.

Spin had earlier accounted for Cummins as Robinson, with his back to the line, twisted away and clear of his opposite wing. The gap grew when Leeds failed miserably to mark him at a play-the-ball, and Robinson's salute as he went in under the posts signalled the end of Leeds's hopes within five minutes of the second half.

Defence was Wigan's catalyst. The attempts by Innes and Iro to hit them out wide were snuffed out to the extent that Leeds were reduced at times to fumbling, one-up rugby. Hanley, in a Leeds shirt possibly for the last time, was anonymous. Farrell, in particular, was immovable object and unstoppable force as Leeds, before a last-minute touchdown by Lowes, yielded to further tries by the excellent Hall and Tugamala, who returned yesterday to New Zealand after the death of his grandfather and will miss the Premiership.

**SCORERS:** Leeds: Tait, Lowes, Goale, Holroyd, R. Wiggins, Tait, Robinson (2), Paul, Hall, Tugamala, Goale, Bolton (2).  
**LEEDS:** A. Tait, J. Farrell, K. Iro, C. Innes, F. Cummins, G. Schellard, G. Hanley, H. Howard (capt), G. Mearns, S. Hanley, J. Lowes, F. Robinson, G. Hanley, H. Fyfe (capt), N. Hanley, G. E. Hanley.  
**WIGAN:** H. Paul, J. Robinson, V. Tugamala, G. Connelly, M. O'Brien, P. Bolton, S. Edwards, K. Skerrett (capt), P. Fothergill, S. J. Hall, N. Cummins, D. Betts, M. Cassidy (capt), A. Farrell, J. P. Clarke.  
**Referee:** R. Smith.



Robinson has time to indulge the crowd as he crosses the line for his second try at Wembley

# Old values prove their worth at sport's new dawn

Simon Barnes marvels at a cup final triumph that continued a famous tradition of excellence

THIS talk about Super Leagues should not have come as a shock. Rugby league has had a Super League for years. The trouble is, there is only one team in it. In other sports, periods of overwhelming domination come and go — Liverpool, McLaren, Yorkshire, Bath — but Wigan march on forever. On Saturday, they took on the second-best team in the country, and Leeds were not in the same league.

The unfailing excellence of Wigan was as wonderful to behold as ever. The inevitable failure of the opposition to give them a game left, as usual, an odd taste. Unpredictability, after all, is the stuff of sport. Wigan went to Wembley: what happened next? They won the cup. That is not one to test Ian and Bill.

Try another. The rugby league cup final took place on Saturday: what happened next? That is a bit trickier, especially on this, rugby league's annual celebration of itself and its traditions. Rugby league, coming south, playing before an audience of 80,000 on a mild, spring afternoon. Was this a last glimpse of rugby league's finest traditions, or is it a sneak preview of the future?

Stand at the top of the twin towers and look down at the endless, swaying, jostling line of people walking Wembley-wards. The last of their kind, or the first of the new wave of rugby league supporters? Turn your eyes a shade west of south, towards the Thames. Putney Bridge is beyond your line of sight, but there stands Fulham football ground, the home of Fulham Rugby League Club. That was the sport's last conquest of the southland: where are they now?

We cannot go on as we are, say some in rugby league — indeed, almost everybody talking about a game on the verge of financial implosion. But is the taking out of the heart the right form of surgery, others argue. Will that not create a super-efficient being with an artificial heart and a calculator brain: not a living, breathing being, but a nicely made android?

Between ambition and tradition fall the players. Saturday gave us a result that looks, indeed was, hopelessly lopsided, but a spectacle to make a connoisseur of sport purr. Wigan did not win by going through the motions, nor did they win by contemptuous attack. They won through quite stunning defensive virtues. Collective virtues.

Late in the game, Leeds would occasionally put a run together, build a fleeting hope of resurgence: hope no sooner hatched than squashed, with three tacklers around the body. The second half was a cakewalk for Wigan because they tackled throughout as if there were a single point between the sides. That is why there were 20.

At Wigan, players come and go. So do coaches, so do the biggest stars in the game. But the tradition of excellence remains, based on work and tackling and shared aims. Is Martin Offiah, try-scoring supreme, the exception? The first try was set up by his pass.

Rugby league looks simple, and so does its history. Look closer, and one sees a game of endless tactical complexity and a tradition filled with contradiction. The twin stories of rugby's two codes are the social history of England. What, then, is the next chapter? A new classlessness? A new snobbery, one based on money? A new dawn of pure excellence? Where is the truth?

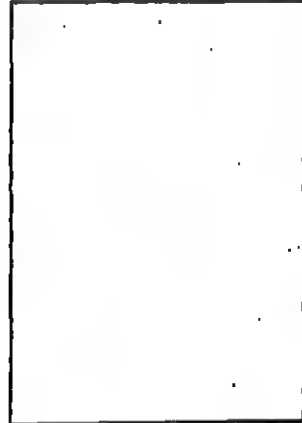
This is sport, so do not ask anyone in a suit or a blazer. The truth of the Packer Affair in cricket was ultimately in the arms of Lillee and Thomson. The suits control the money, the players the truth. The players are not bigger than the game: they are the game.

The truth of rugby league could be found on Saturday in a single second, the second that followed Offiah's pass. Jason Robinson caught it and put a spin move on his markers. A 360-degree pirouette, and he was through the kind of brilliance of thought and execution to which we give the easy term of magic. In troubled times, the only thing we can believe in is magic.

## THE TIMES GOLF MASTERS CHALLENGE

# Win US Golf trips and Wilson clubs Plus £25,000 for the player with the best score over 18 holes

£25,000 LEADERBOARD	
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D Cornwell, London	
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R Huxman, Wigan	
J O'Neill, Harpenden	
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A Muir, Northwich	
S Allen, Bristol	
R Chadwick, Scarborough	
H Yorkshire	
P Britt, Bromley	
One over par	
M Harrop, Chipping Norton	
A Mallin, Bournemouth	
Two over par	
B Miller, Nottingham	
D Wood, Camberley	
J Connolly, Surrey	
S James, Blackburn	
S Lomas, Teckington	
A Pickard, Cambridge	



GREEN

TODAY'S hole in our Golf Masters Challenge features the 18th at Hilton Head Island, played by Hale Irwin in the 1994 Heritage Classic. This is a 453yd par four and Irwin completed it in four shots. Taking a light to moderate north westerly wind into account, he teed off with a driver, used a No 6 iron for his second shot, then used a putter for his third and fourth shots.



Over 1200 hours of golf this year including the Ryder Cup live in September

Today we publish the 14th hole in the Golf Masters Challenge accompanied by details of how many shots a leading professional golfer, Hale Irwin, took to play the hole, the clubs he used and the prevailing weather conditions. The 15th hole appears in The Sunday Times next week.

To play today's hole study the Strokesaver map taking into account the yardage guide which gives both distances from the tee and yardages to the green. They also show obstacles that might prevent the golfer from hitting the ball in a straight line, such as water and trees.

Using your skill and judgment estimate how far each shot travelled, in yards. Then pick up the 'phone, dial the appropriate Hotline, follow the instructions and key in your answers (you will need a touchtone telephone and calls will last for about four minutes; calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at other times).

Try to match the yardage of each shot taken by the featured golf professional and you could win any of three different prizes: The £25,000 accumulator prize can only be won by readers who play all 18 holes during the nine weeks of The Times/The Sunday Times Golf Masters Challenge. If you have already played the first 13 holes ring 0891 66 55 14 and quote your Pin number to play the 14th hole. This number automatically enters accumulator players for the daily prize and the second stage of the seventh weekly prize. A weekly leaderboard will chart the progress of the top entrants.

The weekly prize. This is for all readers who play today's hole and the hole published in The Sunday Times yesterday. The person who has the best score over the two holes will win a luxury golf holiday worth up to £2,000. To play for the weekly and daily prizes ring 0891 40 50 14. Accumulator players do not need to call this number.

The daily prize. The reader with the lowest score on a single hole will win a full set of Wilson golf clubs including a golf bag and Ultra balls. To play for the daily prize, ring 0891 66 55 01.

The success of your play is calculated by a simple scoring system. You will be penalised one point for every yard your estimate varies from the exact yardage taken by the golfing professional for his shot. The total variance in points is then transferred into a golfing equivalent: 0-4 points = 2 under par, 5-8 points = 1 under par, 9-15 points = par, 16-19 points = 1 over par, 20-25 points = 2 over par, 26 points and over = three over par. This scoring mechanism is a final modification and is slightly more sensitive than the original published on March 19.

Golf Masters Challenge  
CUMULATIVE HOTLINE:  
0891 66 55 14  
WEEKLY HOTLINE:  
0891 40 50 14  
DAILY HOTLINE:  
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## Win a holiday to Jamaica

FOR readers who play today's hole and the hole published in The Sunday Times yesterday there is the chance of winning a holiday worth £7,000. This week's destination The Half Moon Golf, Tennis and Beach Club, Jamaica, is one of the Caribbean's most exclusive resorts, close to Montego Bay. This magnificent 400-acre estate boasts a mature 18 hole, par 72 championship golf course, designed by Robert Trent Jones and a mile of white sand beach.

The company Great Golf Resorts of the World, which specialises in luxury golfing holiday resorts, has combined with American Airlines and Avis car rental to provide a dream holiday for two people as a weekly prize for the Golf Challenge.

Each weekly winner and a companion will fly business class with American Airlines. They will stay for five nights in luxury accommodation, with breakfast provided.

Winners will have three rounds of golf on a championship course.

American Airlines is the largest US transatlantic carrier, with non-stop flights from Heathrow, Gatwick, Manchester, Glasgow and Birmingham (from May 26) to eight American gateway cities, with connections to nearly 300 destinations in the US, the Caribbean, Latin America and Japan. This summer American will increase its service from Heathrow to New York/JFK, Chicago and Boston.

For further information on resorts featured, telephone American Airlines Holidays (ATOL 2706) on 01703 465885.



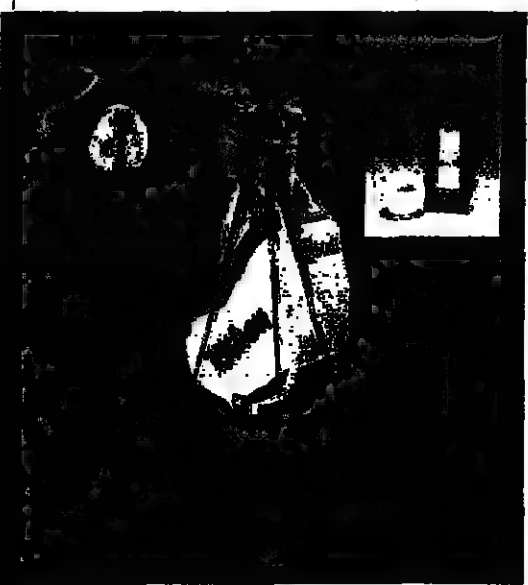
## American Airlines

## Win a set of clubs at every hole

THE reader who gets the best score on each of the 18 holes in the Golf Masters Challenge will win a set of superb Wilson golf clubs worth £1,400 — including a golf bag and the latest technology Ultra 500 golf balls to get you rolling. The set is made up of Wilson Staff Midsize irons and Killer Whale Midsize woods. The irons are designed with perimeter weighting and a generous sweet spot to give maximum accuracy and forgiveness. The Killer Whale woods are reputed to be the longest-hitting clubs on the US PGA tour.

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Bernhard Langer is the featured player in The Sunday Times next week. Match him on the 12th at Augusta in the 1995 Masters.

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**CANADA SQUAD:** Backs: S. Stewart, D.



# Atherton gets chance to prove himself again



Illingworth: clear message

BY ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE weeks of verbal sparring have not sat comfortably with Raymond Illingworth and yesterday, he came off the ropes. In retaining Michael Atherton as England captain, the chairman of selectors made it forcefully clear that his term is probationary and that, in future, he must show more deference to those in authority — or, decoded, to Illingworth himself.

Atherton keeps the job at least until mid-July, having been reappointed for the one-day series against West Indies and the first three Tests. But the prevarication surrounding the decision has been neither imagined nor exaggerated. Indeed, if an alternative Illingworth considered to be suitable had been available,

Atherton might even have been dismissed.

As director of all national affairs, in his new dual role as chairman and manager, Illingworth's power is almost limitless and he does not care for it being questioned. The umbrage he took at Atherton's winter comments regarding selection knew no bounds. In his view, it seems, it was far more of a sackable offence than losing an Ashes series.

"There were things we had to clear up: it's not a captain's job to go around criticising selectors," Illingworth said. "If he has got something to say, he should say it in committee."

Fair comment, though he did add, slightly disingenuously: "When I was captain, I wouldn't have criticised Alec Bedser or Don Kenyon."

Those who recall Illingworth's trenchantly expressed

views on authority, while England captain, might have smirked at that.

While Atherton concedes that his boss has a valid point — "I probably said a thing or two I shouldn't have done" — and confirms that Illingworth privately reprimanded him as soon as the tour of Australia ended, he might be justifiably aggrieved that the matter was not laid to rest then and his tenure extended as the formality it should have been.

By insisting that the captaincy needed serious discussion and a full interview of Atherton by the three selectors, Illingworth was issuing a public warning and a demonstration of his influence. Arguably, he was also humiliating a man who has survived a number of difficulties in the past year and scarcely deserved another, after a tour on

which his personal reputation was enhanced despite defeat.

Atherton's primary emotion is relief that the waiting is over. "I am glad the speculation has come to an end," he said. "It's not been a decision in my own hands, but people like to know where they stand, and that goes for me, for the other players and the public."

He has no complaints about the short-term appointment. "It's how we tend to do things in England," he said. In fact, his main problem yesterday was not knowing what Illingworth had said of him.

Given the high profile of the game and the obvious potential of such an announcement, it was unfathomable that the Test and County Cricket Board decided there was no need for a formal press conference. Atherton was not even asked to attend and it was only

while spending the morning of his free day in Leeds playing golf that he decided that it would be wise.

Illingworth had said his piece and was heading off to lunch when the captain arrived and Atherton's off-chance demeanour as he fielded questions from a media gathering better armed than he was deserved some sympathy.

He bridled particularly at a suggestion that he did not transmit enjoyment on the field, twice stonily insisting: "I am always enthusiastic about my cricket."

Nobody should dispute that fact. The recuperative break since February, indeed, has been good for Atherton and he professes to be starting this season with renewed energy and vitality. But the point Illingworth made, in his absence, about the importance of

a captain's body-language, was nevertheless pertinent.

There are times, as he admits, when Atherton's natural appearance on the field is unhelpfully hangdog. It is something that was also true of his predecessor, Graham Gooch, and Illingworth generalised by saying: "Body language is very important to a team. The captain has got to look bright and breezy."

The job of ensuring that England's players are properly motivated will be shared by chairman and captain, and Illingworth believes that there is work to be done. "I felt we were flat in Australia and I think Michael feels the same: whether we agree or not, the reasons are a different matter," he added enigmatically.

"I'll be doing my bit in this area, but we want a captain who will do the business on

the field and Michael is in complete and utter charge there. I want there to be no doubt about that."

There would, of course, have been far fewer doubts about this but for Illingworth's approach to the reappointment, not to mention his career-long desire to be in charge of everything.

Illingworth speaks darkly of "demarcation lines", but equally he praises Atherton for honesty and straightforwardness. Atherton, for his part, may be more wary in his public pronouncements, but, as he says: "I don't think the chairman has asked me to stop expressing views to him."

So this combustible partnership has successfully cleared the first hurdle of the summer. Their ongoing relationship will be among the season's enduring fascinations.

## Revitalised Surrey turn tables on Gloucestershire

BY PAT GIBSON

THE OVAL (final day of four): Surrey (21pts) beat Gloucestershire (8) by 93 runs

MORE teams have won after being forced to follow on at the Oval than on any other ground, but Surrey had never done it in the county championship until Joey Benjamin last night, caught at the wicket with seven overs of this topsy-turvy match remaining yesterday. It was not a bad way to start their 150th anniversary season.

Eight times previously, sides had come from behind to win at Kennington, but Surrey had not managed it since they beat Cambridge University in 1868. It looked as though they might not make it this time, either, when Jack Russell, the Gloucestershire captain, was doing his dogged best to rectify the mistake he made when he invited Surrey to bat again on Friday afternoon.

A Surrey second-innings total of 475 later, Gloucestershire were set to score 301 to win in 86 overs, a target well within their range if they could have batted as they did in their first innings, but out of the question once they had

collapsed to 44 for five in their second.

There had been no dramatic change in the batting conditions, but Surrey's bowling was considerably better than it had been on the first day, and Gloucestershire's batting — Symonds, the new Anglo-Australian sensation, included — considerably worse.

Kenrick, the left-arm seamer playing in only his second championship match, played his part by having Hodgson caught behind and bowling Wright, but it was Benjamin who undermined Gloucestershire with a sharp reminder of the whole-hearted fast-medium bowling that won him selection for England's winter tour.

He began by uprooting Lynch's off stump, much to the delight of his team-mates who were only too pleased to see the back of their former colleague. Two balls later he claimed Dawson leg-before, and then showed that Symonds may still have a bit to learn by nailing him up with a shortish ball which had him very well caught by Shahid at short leg off the face of the bat.

Alleyne was batting well, however, and with Russell

joining him in a stand of 69 in 20 overs, Surrey were beginning to fret. Spin, so often undervalued at the Oval, came to their rescue in the form of Nowell, the left-arm bowler making his championship debut, and Shahid, the leg spinner recently recruited from Essex. Shahid bowled Alleyne behind his legs with his second ball, Nowell had Russell stumped after 164 minutes' resistance, and though Smith held them up for more than nine overs in company with the defiant Ball, Benjamin completed the job.

Surrey owed their victory chance to Alistair Brown, whose thrilling talent must be recognised by England before too long. They say he cannot "stop" the ball, but he must have stopped a few as well as rapidly changing the direction of a good many more in his three seasons of county cricket, which have already brought him more than 3,000 runs, nine centuries and an average of nearly 47.

Brown was on 167 when Surrey resumed yesterday, 256 runs ahead with three wickets left, and he soon overtook his previous highest score of 175. He had reached 187 when he was caught at slip off Smith, having batted for 375 minutes and faced 297 balls. It was slow going by his standards, but it reflected his growing maturity, and he still wasted few opportunities to demonstrate his strokeplaying ability by hitting four sixes and 17 fours. Surrey had an anxious wait when he was sent to hospital after coughing blood in the dressing-room, the legacy of a blow in the chest while facing the Indian fast bowler, Srinath, but he returned to report no serious damage.



Benjamin, Surrey's match-winner, has Dawson trapped leg-before at the Oval yesterday

## Champions open the season in dominating style

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

EDGBASTON (final day of four): Warwickshire (22pts) beat Middlesex (5) by 215 runs

FIRST there was a softening up; then there was a rout. After three days when they exerted a measure of control, if not dominance, Warwickshire brushed Middlesex aside with the air of men eager to be doing something else. It was the most convincing way that the champions could start the season, and it will be noted by all who would challenge them.

Middlesex submitted feebly. It must be said. Resuming on 60 for one, needing another 293 to win, they were unlikely to get them unless Gattling and Ramprakash avoided the hazards of the first hour. Ramprakash, run out by Twoes's direct hit from mid-on, did not survive the first over. By the time that Gattling played on to Small, six overs later, half the side had gone for 68.

Until Munton is ready to resume his place, Warwickshire are a pace bowler light, although Donald, in his present mood, really counts for two. Munton took 81 wickets in the championship last year at 21 and renders what Jim Laker used to call "yeoman service". To win without him, and to have men like Welch and Brown championing at the bit to get in the side, is all to the good as Phil Neale surveys the terrain as the club's new coach.

In this match, there were contributions from all parts of the team. Knight has clearly settled down quickly, holding good slip catches off Donald as well as making 157 runs. Penney compensated for a first-innings duck by scoring 88 on Saturday, helping to carry the game beyond Middlesex's reach.

Reeve alone failed to do much on the team's behalf but, with all his bending, stretch-

ing and grinning, is hard to call him the invisible man.

The morning belonged to Small, who had taken Pooley's wicket on the third evening. He added Carr and Gattling to his list in no time. Between their departures, Donald, preferring the pavilion end, caught Weekes off his own bowling. One would have to say that the batting was not particularly distinguished in conditions that were far from hostile.

So long as Gattling was there, Warwickshire would have to work a bit harder for victory. An inside edge into his stumps, as he shaped to play the ball through the offside, brought about his dismissal and the game was over by the second over of the afternoon.

Donald was less slippery yesterday, though Nash may not agree. Missed by Davis as slip, when Burns dived across the field to confuse him, Nash ducked into the next ball, a shorter one, and had to leave the field with a sore head, reappearing at the fall of Brown's wicket. He had made another 20 runs, and driven Smith for a straight six, when he offered Osler, the silly point, a catch that he held after a spot of juggling.

That was the first of three wickets for Smith as the last four went either side of lunch for ten runs. There was a humorous touch towards the end as Donald set three slips and three gullies for Emburey's favourite slash. The batsman still managed to mudge the ball between occupied territory and beat Small at third man.

Donald had his man in the end as Knight accepted the last of several fine slip catches in this match. All that was left was Tunnell, and he is not a man to detain people from the bar. Smith lured him yards from his crease and Burns effected a simple stumping.

## English cricket — what future?



IS THERE any hope for English cricket? Are the doom-mongers right to say that England will never be a force in the world until they completely reform their present structure? Join Michael Atherton and Graham Gooch (pictured left), Richie Benaud and Micky Stewart — four men who know more about modern English cricket than most — for what promises to be a lively evening of discussion and debate in this Times/Dillons forum on Wednesday, May 17.

Chaired by Alan Lee, cricket correspondent of *The Times*, the panel will look at all aspects of the game, from schools cricket to Test matches. There will be plenty of opportunity for the audience to question and debate with the speakers. A book-signing session will follow the forum.

The event will be held at Westminster Central Hall, Storey's Gate, London SW1 at 7.30 pm. Tickets at £10 (concessions £7.50) are available by ringing 0171-915 6613, by faxing the coupon below to 0171-580 7680, or by sending it with your remittance to Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1, where tickets can also be purchased.

Please send me ..... ticket(s) at £10 each (£7.50 concessions) for the Times/Dillons Cricket Forum, to be held at Westminster Central Hall, London SW1 on Wednesday, May 17, 1995 at 7.30 pm.

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## Essex founder despite Gooch's resistance

BY IVO TENNANT

CHELMSFORD (final day of four): Leicestershire (21pts) beat Essex (8) by 102 runs

TRY as he might, and that was for more than four hours, Graham Gooch could not defeat Leicestershire on his own yesterday. Another eight runs and he would have made his second century of a match that Essex had looked like winning for the first two days and ultimately lost all too feebly. They were not able even to countenance making 282 to win.

In his 42nd year, Gooch still has wondrous concentration. It is not often that the scoreboard shows more overs bowled than runs against his name, but that was the case for much of his innings now. Between lunch and tea he made just 36, not least because he could not count on any other batsman partnering him for long.

Millins, Mullally, Wells, Parsons and Cronje maintained a markedly disciplined line and length, doing just enough with the ball to beat the bat — even Gooch's — throughout the innings. The fielding and catching, notably that of Smith, the substitute, was of a high order. The captaincy was attritional. This is a Leicestershire side that will be as hard to beat as it was last year.

It was a victory, too, achieved without a proper wicketkeeper. Already without Nixon for the first three weeks of the season, Leicestershire now have Whitecraze incapacitated as well. Four lights were on when he was hit in the teeth by Williams on Saturday, an injury which necessitated having 25 injections and seven teeth removed yesterday.

Jack Birkenshaw, the county's

manager/coach, was so irked by the decision of the umpires not to take the players off before then that he said he would write to the Test and County Cricket Board about the regulation that, if at all possible, play should continue in inferior light.

Both David Constant and Ray Julian played with Birkenshaw for Leicestershire in the Sixties and would not have escaped his wrath. "If that had been a Test match, the players would have been off the field," he said. Whitecraze is brave enough and keen enough to want to play against the Minor Counties in the Benson and Hedges Cup tomorrow, but if he cannot, it is conceivable Leicestershire will ask Neil Burns, once of Essex and more recently of Somerset, to play for them.

Robinson kept wicket yesterday, holding one straightforward catch to account for Lewis. There was some spineless batting hereabouts: Pritchard was beaten by a good one Millins cut back, but the way the middle order collapsed emphasised how much Essex were missing Waugh — and, for that matter, Stephenson and Knight. Waugh does not arrive until May 16.

Essex tend to regard defeat at Chelmsford as a seismic upheaval. Darren Robinson, Irfan and Irfan, all caught in the covers, and Rollins, bowled shouldering arms, will not wish to dwell on their dismissals. Such did at least stoutly defend one end, making just six of a ninth wicket partnership of 62 with Gooch, who was finally bowled by Mullally looking to keep the strike. He did at least reach 41,000 first-class runs during this splendid innings.

## Ward lacking support as Kent subside

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE have never won the county championship but they may well take it as an augury that they had never won at Canterbury, until yesterday, when they needed only 68 minutes to complete a nine-wicket victory over Kent.

In what seems likely to be Allan Lamb's last season as captain, Northamptonshire, unlikely to be troubled by Test match calls, seem well equipped to mount a strong challenge, although a lot may depend on the form of the Indian leg spinner, Anil Kumble.

Kent, starting the day at 192 for seven, needing 11 more runs to avoid an innings defeat, lost Min Patel to the fifth ball of Paul Taylor's third over. Four runs later, Dean Headley was adjudged leg-before to the former England left-arm seamer who completed figures of five for 49 by dismissing Martin McCague with the aid of Lamb's second catch of the morning.

Trevor Ward, who scored 114, carried his bat for the first time in his career. Northamptonshire lost Alan Fordham, caught behind off Patel, before Robert Bailey made the winning hit.

The most comprehensive victory in the opening round of championship games was gained by Derbyshire, whose win over Sussex by an innings and 379 runs on Saturday was the biggest in their history. Phil DeFreitas took six for 35, his best figures for his third county, as Sussex were bowled out for 115 in their second innings.

Hampshire collapsed after the dismissal of Robin Smith for 77 and were beaten by 26 runs by Durham, whose impressive left-arm seamer, Simon Brown, took five wickets.

## Glamorgan canter after Somerset's brave effort

BY JACK BAILEY

TAUNTON (final day of four): Glamorgan (34pts) beat Somerset (6) by eight wickets

SOMERSET, needing 123 to make Glamorgan bat again, nearly overcame a dreadful start to the day in which they lost five wickets for 59 on a jokey pitch, with the high arm, lift and late movement of Steve Watkin responsible for four of them. That they came close to batting out the day was due to two fine innings, in contrasting styles, by Peter Bowler and Graham Rose. Their partnership of 129 from 47 overs was at the heart of the resistance which carried Somerset to within 65 minutes of salvation.

That was not close enough to prevent Glamorgan from knocking off the 87 runs they needed with nearly nine of their 22 overs left. The wicket had long since dried out and, as Glamorgan had discovered as they rolled away in mid-afternoon, the ball came more easily on to the bat and off it as the day wore on.

Although he found life more difficult as time went by, Watkin stuck to his task admirably. Always able to extract more life from the pitch than anyone else, he bowled line and length even when Bowler and Rose were in full flow. His 7-49 deserved to be a match-winning performance and his 10 wickets in the match spoke volumes for the old-fashioned virtues.

Talk of an early departure for home was commonplace as Watkin plied his honest trade before lunch. Only Bowler with his sound defensive qualities had an answer to Watkin whom he met with the full face of the bat while plundering what was offered from the other end.

Meanwhile, Watkin's first spell of 4-25 from nine overs brought him the wickets of Lathwell, bowled by a beauty; Trescott, who now tends to play from outside to in, caught from a leading edge to cover; Harden, victim of a wicked lifter; and Hayhurst, caught behind down the leg side.

The only morning blot on Bowler's escutcheon came when he sent back Turner in mid pitch. The resultant runout was the last easy picking for Glamorgan. They were made to work hard as Bowler resisted and Rose drove handsomely on either side of the wicket. Bowler was missed by Metson, of all people, off Watkin when he had made 44 and Glamorgan were crying out for a breakthrough.

Metson must have heaved a sigh of relief when he clung to a chance offered by Rose.

Rose's contribution of 84 to Somerset's 188-6 contained 16 fours. He more than anyone had threatened to carry the game beyond Glamorgan's reach. But with him gone, the gate was open. David Hemp rewarded his captain's faith by taking his first first-class wicket, Watkin mopped up and Bowler, after four and a half hours of solid endeavour, was left stranded on 84 as in trying to keep the strike he called Van Troost for an unlikely run.

Somerset's lead of 86 was soon proved inadequate by Steven James, who coolly helped himself to an undefeated 47 — a telling contribution from someone unable to command a regular first-team place — and by Hemp, who struck Mushaq for four and a long six in the same over and, more importantly, prevented the little man from setting.







## Slovakia complete 5-0 victory

## Lloyd promises to halt Britain's Davis Cup decline

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, IN BRATISLAVA

EVEN before he had officially taken over as the captain of the Great Britain Davis Cup team, David Lloyd was prepared to offer a firm assurance. The sequence of six successive defeats, which has dragged the team down to an unprecedented and ignominious depth, will not continue.

When asked yesterday morning whether Britain could lose the next tie, at home to either Monaco or Egypt at Eastbourne in the middle of July, the usually loquacious Lloyd restricted his response to half a dozen words. "That won't happen," he snapped. "I guarantee it."

Lloyd is too shrewd an operator to make such a prediction without due consideration. He is also too witty to have taken on the post without being convinced that he has enough talent at his disposal to be a success. That the timing is propitious is no coincidence.

Firstly, the next venue is favourable. Because of the vagaries of a complicated drawing system, Britain will be competing on home soil for only the second time in four years. Secondly, his list of contenders is probably about to be notably strengthened by a player changing his allegiance.

It is believed that Greg Rusedski, the man with the fastest recorded service in history, will soon end the lengthy speculation about which country he is to represent in the competition. As a youth, he played for Canada, where he was born 21 years ago to an English mother.

As a senior, he is free to play for Britain in the Davis Cup. As long as he officially confirms his intentions to the Lawn Tennis Association in time, he could be allowed by the International Tennis Fed-

eration to enter the Wimbledon championships as a domestic competitor.

Lloyd awaits developments, but will not hesitate to make his first change. He is to invite Greg Isaacs, a South African based in California, to act as the trainer of a squad of eight or nine players that he will assemble a month before Wimbledon.

Isaacs will strengthen physical weaknesses. Of the players involved in the 5-0 defeat by Slovakia, Tim Henman needs a more powerful upper body, Miles Maclagan requires greater flexibility and Neil Broad must shed at least half a stone from a frame that betrays his surname.

## RESULTS

Slovakia versus Great Britain  
J Kucera bt T Herrman 7-5, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4  
K Kucera bt M Maclagan 6-3, 6-2, 4-6, 7-5  
Kucera and Kucera bt N Broad and Henman 3-6, 6-4, 6-4, 2-6, 6-2  
Kucera bt Henman 6-4, 6-2  
Kucera bt Maclagan 7-5, 6-2

Lloyd's duty, as he sees it, is to instil "a nasty streak". "So much of this game depends on who is stronger up here," he said, pointing to his forehead. Over three days here, Bill Knight's team lacked the decisive element of mental fortitude.

They were not short of courage or spirit. Indeed, they fought rearguard actions while the die was still alive, but, having reduced deficits, they were unable on each occasion to sustain the momentum. Henman, after winning the third set in the opening singles against Jan Krosk, was broken at the start of the fourth.

Maclagan, during a performance that indicated that he

will soon earn the right to be considered Britain's prime clay-court exponent, followed the same pattern in the second rubber. Later in the fourth set, he broke twice to level at 5-5, but then lost his own service and subsequently the match.

In the doubles on Saturday, Henman and Broad took six successive games to win the fourth set and level the match. They were immediately broken and, within 25 minutes, the tie was over. In the meaningless affairs yesterday, Henman submitted to Karol Kucera 6-4, 6-2 and Maclagan went down to Krosk 7-5, 6-2.

With only four sets to show for their valiant efforts, the defeat on the alien surface was predictable. Slovakia would, as Knight lamented, "beat most nations at home".

The damage was done in Manchester last July when Britain succumbed, woefully, 3-2 to Romania. "I would have been chuffed off if we'd dropped even a set against them," Lloyd said.

The last time Britain lost six ties in succession was two decades ago. Lloyd, himself, was then a member of the team and he is determined that a new record will not be set in the play-off to avoid being relegated to group three of the Euro-African zone.

"My yardstick is not just to win," he declared, "but to win easily, without dropping a set."

Rusedski, the No 8 seed, won the South Korean Open title in Seoul yesterday when Lars Rehmann, his German opponent, was forced to retire through injury. Rusedski's powerful service proved too good for the unseeded Rehmann as he took the first set 6-4. Rusedski was leading 3-1 in the second set when Rehmann pulled up, complaining of an ankle injury.

## Preston put penalty expertise to good use in semi-final

BY JOHN GOODBODY AND LOUISE TAYLOR

OF ALL school sports competitions in Great Britain, probably none generates such widespread interest and tension as the Snickers' under-19 football tournament. It is an event that this season attracted an entry of more than 2,500 schools and the tautness of the semi-finals last week reflected the unyielding commitment of boys focused on winning the trophy against rivals of such solid ability.

Northgate High School, from Ipswich, and Swindon College must replay their tie in Suffolk tomorrow after the first match ended 3-3 after extra time in an atmosphere verging on pandemonium. Boys were repeatedly collapsing with cramp as the 110 minutes of play wore on, with neither team prepared to lessen the relentless pace.

In the other semi-final at Blackpool, Preston won the replayed game against Winstanley College, Wigan, only on penalties. The two teams were level at 3-3 after extra time. The score after the shoot-out was 4-2. Strictly speaking, they should have had a second replay, but the schools agreed, with a levels a month away and the final still to be held, to resort to penalties.

The winners of the Northgate and Swindon tie will host the final of this English Schools Football Association competition. No school from Suffolk or Wiltshire has won this trophy.

The competition is initially held on a county basis, with the winners going through to the national competition. Northgate took the Suffolk Cup this season by defeating West Suffolk College 2-1 and subsequently have tried their own stamina and nerves with a series of single-goal victories, the last two of which came in replays.

Trevor Elmy, the coach, believes that the spirit of the team has been the outstand-



Hewitt, of Swindon College, wins this aerial battle with Garnett, of Northgate High School, in their drawn semi-final.

ing feature. "They work for each other and never give up," he said. "They have no weak links."

Swindon were perhaps technically the more proficient and possessed elusive players in Justin Miller, with two goals last week, and James Hewitt, an English Schools' triallist and the scorer of their third goal.

However, Northgate refused to be beaten, just as they had in previous rounds. The school is a mixed comprehensive, with a complement of 1,600 and is best known for its contribution to the British theatre, with Trevor Nutt and Jane Lapotaire among its former pupils.

Both coaches have been trying frantically to persuade their players not to take part in matches, sometimes semi-

SPORT  
IN SCHOOLS

professional, before the replay tomorrow. Paul Jack, the Swindon coach, said: "The players are drained. I have told them to relax and not to play football. Schoolboys simply play too many competitive games nowadays."

How true. One boy had even been planning to play again in the evening after the

afternoon's semi-final last week. Others were carrying injuries. One Northgate player, Kieron Cobb, seems certain to miss the game tomorrow. He was knocked unconscious in the first match of the previous round and missed the replay. However, he got Northgate's first goal last week before leaving the field with another head injury.

In Blackpool, where seagulls circled the old wooden stand, Preston, coaxed by the team manager, Geoff Snailham, played an adventurous passing game. Urging his players during the warm-up to work on the "one-touch" stuff, Snailham watched as Preston showed they had several players whose balance and body-carriage were of a standard to enable them to

glide past markers. Some are, considering offers of sports scholarships from American universities.

Nobody was better than Stewart Drummond, already a semi-professional with Morecambe. Several league scouts watched as he scored two goals. He received support from Joe Alder, who contributed some promising touches down the right, and John Kennedy, a diminutive but dictatorial central midfielder player. They will be the men to suppress in the final.

Winstanley were well organised on the field, with an outstanding player in their captain, Steven Moynaux. They have the prospect of doing even better next year, since many of their side are first-year sixth-formers and will be available in 1995-96.

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# EDUCATION

Starting today, a two-week guide for every parent to the new tests their children must take at 7, 11 and 14

## How to pass the classroom tests

As youngsters prepare for their exams, John O'Leary describes a new study aid

This week is the start of the biggest examination season Britain has ever known. With the full range of national curriculum tests in operation for the first time, almost three million pupils will be assessed before the term is over.

To add to the annual trauma of GCSE and A levels come classroom tests at seven, 11 and 14. The full battery of assessments completes the cycle of reform started in 1988 and marks an eventual success for the Government after a two-year teachers' boycott.

The tests have been the centre of controversy during a decade of frequent changes of policy over the subjects to be included and treatment of the results. Ministers have

settled for the core subjects of English, mathematics and science. For families all over England and Wales, the final piece of the jigsaw represents a new and unfamiliar challenge. Many are unsure what to make of the new tests at the end of primary schooling and their controversial counterparts in the crucial years before GCSE. Do they matter? And how should pupils prepare?

Over the next fortnight, Testplan will answer these and other questions in *The Times*. The daily series will provide a subject-by-subject guide, offering advice on revision and showing what to expect at 11 and 14. There will also be tips for GCSE and A-level students, who will be able to buy unique new audio tapes to help with English examinations.

The assessment of seven-year-olds has already begun in many primary schools. They have until the end of next month to carry out set tasks in reading, writing and mathematics, and some schools will be extending the process to cover science. Before the end of the month, tests will follow in reading, spelling and mathematics. But because seven-year-olds are not expected to prepare for their tests, the series will concentrate on the older age groups. Most infants' schools have been testing at seven — although often not complying with ministers' instructions to publish the results — for up to four years. The slimmed-down assessment regime now has an established place on the school calendar, cemented this year by the provision of funds to bring in extra staff for the duration of the tests.

Not so the older age groups. The tests will, for the first time, be a legal requirement for 11-year-olds. They will also be new to many secondary schools. Fewer than a quarter of schools carried out the English tests last year, in the face of the National Union of Teachers' boycott, and only a third did mathematics and science.

Now that the NUT has, in effect, called off its boycott, there should be a clear run for all the tests this year. Many teachers remain wary of national testing, but the latest version has been produced in consultation with the profession and has evolved greatly since the process began in 1991.

The tests to be taken this month are designed to pinpoint pupils' strengths and weaknesses at key moments in their school careers, as well as enabling parents to judge the performance of schools. For all age groups, the papers will look very different from anything parents have encountered in public examinations. They are intended to fit into normal classroom activity, while concentrating on key elements of the curriculum. Junior schools have been treating the tests particularly seriously, after a pilot last year exposed worrying flaws in some areas. Researchers have found that many have been using last year's materials for coaching sessions reminiscent of preparations for the 11-plus.

Parents appear equally anxious to help. A *Let's* guide to the tests for 11-year-olds sold more than 40,000 copies in two months and is already in its third print run. The publishers have commissioned another for next year's tests at 14. Testplan will include relevant sample questions for both age groups, as well as expert advice on preparation and tips on common mistakes made last year. The series should provide an invaluable guide for children and parents alike.

Tony Mills, the senior spokesman for the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, says: "Anything that encourages parents to take an interest in their children's education and to help them with school work, getting them into the habit of revising before tests and examinations, must be welcome."



Fourteen-year-olds taking a standard assessment test. How should pupils prepare for them?

sample questions for both age groups, as well as expert advice on preparation and tips on common mistakes made last year. The series should provide an invaluable guide for children and parents alike.

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The tests are designed to give information to governors and the wider community, as well as parents, so as many people as possible should have an insight into how they operate."

### BRINGING HOME RESULTS AT BACON'S

Tests are part of the furniture at Bacon's College. The city technology college in Rotherhithe, south London, is one of only a handful of schools where pupils will sit the Government's tests for 14-year-olds for the third successive year.

The tests are already part of the ritual of the college's academic year. Each January, parents are sent a booklet and invited to a meeting to hear more about the seven-hour battery of tests in English, mathematics and science. In March, pupils sit "mock" tests under formal examination conditions. In May, they return for the real thing. In July, parents receive a full report on their children's performance.

There was never much doubt that Bacon's would take national curriculum testing seriously and defy the boycott by the three main classroom unions. It was the showcase college's side of a bargain to deliver results to ministers in recompense for more than £13.5 million invested by the taxpayer.

But Tony Perry, the college's acting Principal, expresses genuine enthusiasm for the tests, particularly since the Government agreed to pay for the papers to be marked externally. With a measure of surprise, he says the benefits have been huge: "The tests focus the kids' minds at what is a traditionally difficult age. They act as a springboard to GCSE public examinations and allow pupils to compare themselves against national standards."

Mr Perry says the college finds parents supportive once it has "demystified" the tests. "The most common worries are about what happens to a pupil who fails or misses the tests. We enlist parents' support by explaining that although they are not public examinations, the tests are an important opportunity to measure pupils' progress."

The booklet gives parents a timetable and reams of information about the tests. It details how parents can help their children, explaining everything from the importance of ensuring regular attendance to the need to bring a

pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, protractor and calculator to the mathematics test. It explains that the college decides which of the tiered papers individual pupils will sit by referring to their previous work, mock results and consulting teachers. The test results are used as a management tool as well as helping teachers to decide which groupings most pupils will join for their GCSE courses. Bacon's is partially streamed, with the brightest children clustered in classes together.

The school analyses the statistics to project GCSE results for each year group. It also monitors the progress of each cohort by comparing results with those of baseline entry tests taken at 11. This allows the school to construct a sophisticated "value added" measure of pupils' progress, rather than simply relying on the raw test scores.

Bacon's is in Southwark, one of the most deprived London boroughs. The college marshals its analysis of results to dampen unrealistic expectations about its disappointing but improving GCSE results. Only 11 per cent of pupils gained five or more GCSEs at good grades last summer, a figure projected to rise to 15 per cent this year.

Wendy Langworthy, curriculum manager for science, says testing and the ten-level scale used as a benchmark of pupils' academic progress are beginning to take firm root. "Most pupils know what level they are working towards in the core subjects," she says. "It's an incentive for them to get to the next level and they are quite competitive about it."

While thousands of teachers who have still not used the tests remain sceptical or oppose them outright, Miss Langworthy argues that they help teachers. She insists: "We saw from the mock tests last term that pupils were weak in some areas of the curriculum. It was useful for us to be able to go back and teach those areas again."

BEN PRESTON

## Problem parents

THEY MAY not like to admit it, but children actually enjoy tests, according to psychologists. Most of the problems arise from the expectations of parents and teachers.

The sheer regularity of testing introduced in the reforms means that schools and families will have to become used to the pressure. Most pupils will be tested formally five times in the course of their school career.

For two decades, few children in state schools experienced an external examination until they sat GCSE at the age of 16. One of the aims of the national curriculum tests is to familiarise them with the process to foster improvements in public examinations.

The first national assess-

Pupils can enjoy tests, say John O'Leary and Ben Preston

ments, limited to seven-year-olds, prompted fears that the strain would prove too much. One school in Cardiff even halted the tests when parents complained that their children were having sleepless nights and becoming disruptive.

Since then, however, the arguments have centred more on the strain on teachers than on pupils. Dr Martin Desforbes, a senior educational psychologist who lectures at Sheffield University, says: "By and large, children seem to enjoy the sort of experience associated with assessment. Given the right emotional support and ambience, they usually display little anxiety."

Dr Desforbes says a competitive streak in parents and a tendency by teachers to label children according to previous performance are where things start to go wrong. "Teachers are very much influenced by the expectations that they have of children from the information provided at the start of the school year. That is unfortunate because child development is a very uneven process."

Since many children move schools after their tests at seven and 11, the results assume added importance if their new classes are streamed. But Dr Desforbes says the ten-level scale of assessment is not sufficiently consistent to draw hard conclusions about how a child's performance compares with the expected rate of progress.

Michael Barber, Professor of Education at Keele University, believes external tests for 14-year-olds will reinvigorate both pupils and teachers. He argues: "The third year in secondary school is a Cinderella year. Research shows that pupils' motivation is at its lowest level because there is nothing to work for."

Unpublished work by the Centre for Educational Research at the London School of Economics underlines the impact that parents and teachers can have on children sitting tests. Dr Anne West, director of research, says that primary pupils taking the seven-year-old tests were often very relaxed and enjoyed the tasks involved. "The brighter pupils were more susceptible to parental pressure and teacher expectation."

## Climbing the steps to success

WHATEVER THE age group, national curriculum test results will all be judged on the same ten-level scale. An average pupil will make one level's progress every two years.

At the age of seven, the assessment and tests will cover the first three levels of the curriculum, with the majority achieving Level 2. Those who do particularly well in a subject may try the tests designed for 11-year-olds.

By the age of 11, the average child will be on Level 4. The tests cover levels 3-5, while separate tasks are set for those falling behind and there is an extension test which enables the brightest to reach Level 6. At 14, pupils are tested at one of four degrees of difficulty, each covering three levels of the curriculum. Most are expected to reach Level 5 or 6, although extension papers are available up to Level 10 for those on accelerated programmes. Separate tasks will be used to assess those still below Level 2.

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afternoon: Mathematics (1 hour)

Thur May 11: morning: Welsh (45mins-1 hour)  
afternoon: Welsh (1 hour)

Fri May 12: English extension paper for the most able (1 hour)  
Science extension paper (1½ hours)  
Mathematics extension paper (1½ hours)

**11-YEAR-OLDS**

Mon May 15: Science (35 mins)

Tues May 16: English reading (1 hour)  
Mathematics (35 mins)

Wed May 17: English reading (1 hour)  
Mathematics (35 mins)

Thur May 18: Mathematics (35 mins)  
Science (35 mins)

Fri May 19: Mathematics extension test for the most able (30 mins)  
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# EDUCATION

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The Clerk to the Trustees  
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The closing date for applications is 26th May 1995

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## HEAD

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The Governors of Queenswood School invite applications for the post of

## HEAD

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Full details of the appointment, prospectus and application form may be obtained by writing to the Clerk to the Governors, Queenswood School, Shepends Way, Brookmans Park, Hatfield, Herts AL9 6NS.

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### EDUCATION

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Further particulars may be obtained by writing to the

Head of Department,

Department of Chemistry,

The University of Edinburgh,

King's Buildings, West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JJ or from The Personnel Office,

The University of Edinburgh, 1 Roxburgh Street, Edinburgh EH8 9TB.

Letters of application (15 copies/1 from overseas candidates) should include a curriculum vitae, and the names and addresses of three referees - please include fax numbers for referees if possible.

Applications should be addressed to:

THE SECRETARY TO THE UNIVERSITY  
THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH,  
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OF EXCELLENCE



# BR aims to raise £100m from telecoms sale

By ERIC REGULY

BRITISH Rail Telecommunications has gone back on the auction block, after a failed privatisation effort two years ago, in an effort to raise more than £100 million.

The company is profitable and has a stable client base of train operating companies. It has a dedicated maintenance force and, most importantly, a high-capacity cable network that links virtually every town and city in Britain with 16,000 kms of phone and data lines, a quarter of which are fibre-optic cable.

But capacity could prove its biggest liability. Britain is awash with telecoms networks. British Telecom and Mercury Communications have networks and the cable companies

are spending more than £10 billion to build their own. In addition, Energis created a vast network last year simply by stringing fibre-optic cables along the pylons of the National Grid, the electricity transmission system.

David Blake, managing director of the British Rail Vendor Unit, which is charged with selling all of BR's non-passenger businesses, admits that the presence of widespread capacity "obviously is a problem" for BRT. But he thinks the company has enough going for it to make it attractive to buyers.

Swiss Bank Corporation has been hired to sell the company. The vendor unit hopes to drum up a short list of contenders by the summer, with the sale occurring by early autumn. Mr Blake will not reveal the sales price. He

will say only that he thinks BRT is worth a "fairly heavy multiple" of its pre-tax profits of £17 million on turnover of £170 million in its latest financial year. The talk is that the vendor unit expects to receive more than £100 million.

Three broad groups of possible buyers have been identified: engineering companies, cable and software companies, and global telecoms groups, such as AT&T. Of the lot, Mr Blake thinks that cable and software companies might be the keenest. Britain's dozen or so cable groups are building regional franchises for TV and telephony service. Eventually, those franchises will have to be connected so that other services, such as video-on-demand, and the information superhighway, can be put into place. The software category would include

companies such as EDS, which might need a network to manage and transmit computer data on behalf of corporate clients.

The cable companies, however, do not seem enthusiastic about BRT. Niall Hickey, the Cable Communications Association spokesman, said that capacity has become a "commodity business". If the cable companies want to link their franchises, they could easily do so by leasing lines from operators such as Energis. There is no need to buy a network.

Still, the vendor unit remains optimistic. BRT has a good chance of remaining profitable because it has captive clients, Mr Blake said. "BRT gives you capacity plus direct access to all the population centres. We have the perfect network on which to build."

## Small firms offered more help to grow

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government is launching two initiatives today aimed at helping small businesses to grow, which ministers will claim will help improve companies' access to finance.

The moves stem from the Treasury's industrial finance initiative, a now completed study of the flows of finance to business. Ministers believe that there is considerable demand among small businesses for the steps the Government is taking.

The announcement, to be made by Anthony Nelson, Economic Secretary, will start up two studies. One will consider the scope for setting up US-style "business incubators" in Britain. The second will examine the idea of a new certificate to signal companies' financial competence.

Mr Nelson said: "I believe that these ideas may have

great potential for identifying and helping firms with the capacity to grow." Under the incubator idea, sites are developed for small businesses. But incubators differ from, say, science parks in the UK in that a crucial feature is the presence on site of a director specifically charged with helping them grow.

The Government will set up a panel of specialists that will study closely two incubators already operating in Britain—the St John's Innovation Centre in Cambridge, sponsored by St John's College Cambridge, and the Midas scheme in the West Midlands.

After an expected 18 months' work, the panel will recommend whether to proceed with the idea. The Treasury believes incubators would fit well with other government-supported schemes to help industry, including the Business Link network.

Under the second move, the Treasury and the Department of Trade and Industry will issue a consultation paper today examining the idea of a new Financial Management Certificate, aimed at widening small companies' access to finance and encouraging them to improve their own financial management.

Ministers hope that the certificate, foreshadowed by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, in his Budget last year, will reduce the risk of failure among new and small companies by improving their financial management.

Under the low-cost proposals to be put forward, accreditation of businesses would be carried out by a range of bodies, probably led by the National Accreditation Council for Certification Bodies.

The certificate would be modular, in that even the smallest companies could apply for foundation-level approval, with additional and more extensive elements then applicable to companies of different sizes and structures and in different industries.

Ministers draw parallels between the proposed certificate and NVQ skill qualifications for individuals. They want the study to find out whether the suggested accreditation would be subject to the slowness of take-up and poor standards that critics of the NVQs claim are characteristic of the skill system.

## Nabarro merges to join top 10

BRITAIN'S thirteenth largest law firm, Nabarro Nathanson, has merged with the remaining partners of Turner Kenneth Brown to create one of the country's ten largest law firms (writes Eric Reguly).

Turner's 21 partners and 75 other employees, including solicitors, consultants and trainees, will join Nabarro, which has 107 partners and 295 other staff. The Turner name will disappear. Turner specialised in information technology, engineering, capital markets and venture-capital law.

The combined fee income of the larger firm, which starts business today, will be about £65 million. Chris Hinz, a spokesman for Nabarro, said: "This gives us greater depth in those areas."

Nabarro, whose speciality is litigation and property and corporate law, began merger negotiations with Turner in December. Turner had been rebuilding its business after heavy debts led to the departure of about a dozen lawyers.



Ernest Burton and Terry Simpson, front, have put Streamline on the right road

## Streamline marks out route to market listing

By NEIL BENNETT

THE company that paints the lines on Britain's roads and manufactures the dreaded plastic cones that drive motorists to despair is planning to float on the stock market this year, after enjoying a surge in profits and negotiating a series of acquisitions in 1994.

Streamline, a £72 million management buyout from Shell in February 1993, hopes to come to the market in the autumn, valued at about £150 million. As well as cones and double yellow lines, the group makes a range of sophisticated road surfaces and traffic management systems and exports to more than 60 countries.

Today, the company will

announce a 32 per cent rise in profits during 1994 to £10.3 million, on turnover of £136 million, up 6 per cent. Sales were boosted by the acquisitions of Fibrescreen, which makes patching repair sealants for motorways and runways, and Zedralex, which makes anti-slip surfaces.

The company has been turned round in the past two years by Terry Simpson, the chief executive and former managing director of Buzel, and Ernest Burton, finance director, who was previously with Rockware Group. They have improved Streamline's cash flow to such an extent that it has reduced its debts

from £40 million since the buyout to £10 million today, in spite of spending £9 million on acquisitions.

Streamline also owns a building products division that makes roofing membranes and flooring adhesives, which accounts for more than a third of sales.

The company is keen to reassure City investors that it will not be affected by the slowdown in the Government's road-building programme. Only 3 per cent of its sales come from new roads. Most of its business is repair and maintenance, such as the thermoplastic paint for road markings, which need to be repainted every three years.

## Saatchi brothers challenge Cordiant

By ERIC REGULY

LAWYERS acting for Maurice and Charles Saatchi have asked Cordiant, the new name of the Saatchi & Saatchi advertising agency, to remove a section in Cordiant's forthcoming annual report about the transfer of £2.9 million in company pension entitlements to the brothers.

Cordiant's report, due to be published in two weeks, suggests that the amount, which went from the Saatchi group pension scheme to the brothers' private scheme six years ago, may have been incorrectly calculated. The Saatchi brothers may seek an injunction to prevent the publication of the report if the references remain.

The report says: "In March 1995, the directors became aware that after Maurice and Charles Saatchi entered the Saatchi & Saatchi Pension and Assurance Scheme in 1988, £2.9 million was transferred in 1989 from that scheme to a stand-alone scheme for their benefit. The basis of the calculation of the transfer is being reviewed by the company and legal advice is being taken."

At the weekend, Charles Smallwood of Watson Farley, Maurice Saatchi's legal adviser, "complained strenuously" to Travers Smith Braithwaite, Cordiant's independent legal adviser, about the inclusion of the pension references, a spokesman for Maurice said.

Maurice Saatchi is said to be convinced that Cordiant simply is attempting to undermine him as he makes his pitch for the crucial British Airways account. Tomorrow, the airline will decide which agency will win the £60-million prize.

Cordiant has asked Travers Smith and KPMG, its auditor, to scrutinise the transfer. It wants to know how the £2.9 million was calculated, and who approved the transfer.

A spokesman for Maurice Saatchi said that the transfer was perfectly above board. He said neither Maurice nor Charles was a pension trustee. The chairman of the pension trustees at the time was Vanni Treves, a senior partner at Macfarlanes, a London law firm. Macfarlanes normally acts for Cordiant, but has been replaced by Travers Smith in this matter to prevent a conflict of interest.

Neither Mr Treves nor Maurice would comment.

The spokesman said: "For them to threaten legal action against Maurice Saatchi is an everyday event. To distribute their annual report to the press before their shareholders is a little unusual. But to threaten the senior partner [Mr Treves] of their own legal advisers is truly extraordinary," he said.

## Signs of recovery in industrial property

GROWTH in manufacturing has fed through into increased confidence in the industrial property market, according to the latest report from the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, out today. Its first-quarter commercial property survey, which covers 11 regions in England and Wales, showed a balance of 33 per cent of respondent surveyors more confident in the industrial occupier market at the end of March than at the start of the year and only 17 per cent in the final quarter of last year. Confidence was particularly high in East Anglia, the East Midlands and the South West.

Michael Pattison, chief executive of the RICS, said that the devalued pound and Britain's main trading partners emerging from recession had increased demand for British goods and more firms were working at full capacity. "The RICS survey clearly indicates that more firms are deciding to invest, not only in plant and machinery, but also in their buildings," he said.

## Advice rules change

BANKS and building societies that offer only a limited range of investment products from one firm must advertise the fact in their front windows by law from today. The rules also cover media advertising. The move has been dubbed "confession day" by independent financial advisers, who hope that they will benefit from greater public awareness of the restrictions on tied agents. Welcoming the move, Geoffrey Lister, the chief executive of Bradford & Bingley, which offers independent advice, said: "I believe these new disclosure rules will provide a major boost for independent financial advice."

## Hutchison jobs boost

HUTCHISON TELECOM, parent of the personal communications group that includes Orange, the newest of the four mobile-phone networks, will announce today that 200 new jobs will be created this year in its Darlington operations. The £3 million expansion will raise Hutchison's total employment in Darlington to 700. Hutchison, owned 65 per cent by the Hutchison Whampoa group of Hong Kong and 40 per cent by British Aerospace and Barclays, is concentrating its customer services and paging operations there. Orange has about 145,000 customers in Britain and is the fourth largest mobile-phone network, behind Mercury One-2-One.

## C&W chief's bonus hit

JAMES ROSS, chief executive of Cable & Wireless, will see his performance bonus decline substantially in the 1994-1995 financial year, the company said. Mr Ross's bonus was £239,000 in the 1993-1994 financial year, on top of his basic salary of £400,000. The fall in his performance bonus, which will be revealed on June 27, when Cable & Wireless's annual report is published, reflects substantial writedowns recently taken at the 80 per cent-owned Mercury Communications. His basic salary, set in July 1994, is fixed until July 1996.

## 'Need for tax cuts'

MODEST Budget tax cuts could be necessary to avoid the risk of recession, an economist argues today. In his latest commentary on economic policy, Professor Douglas McWilliams, of the Centre for Economics and Business Research, says weakness of the pound will probably prompt the Chancellor to raise interest rates soon to ensure he hits his inflation target. The risk is that by doing so he will probably slow growth to a "snail's pace", forcing up unemployment and leaving government borrowing uncomfortably high. But if taxes are cut even by 2p in the next three Budgets to offset deflation, growth would continue at an acceptable rate and public borrowing would continue to fall, he says.

## Letts back in profit

CHARLES LETTS Group, the UK diary maker, will today announce a return to profit, earning £1.9 million before tax in the 12 months to January 31, its first full year since the acquisition from the Letts family in a £16 million deal. In the previous financial year, the company incurred losses of £785,000. Continuing operations saw turnover ease to £22.75 million from £23.6 million, but operating profits rose to £3.4 million from £2.26 million. Shareholders' funds rose to £5.4 million from £4.2 million. Bill Gore, chief executive, said the current year had started well in Britain and North America. The company celebrates its bi-centenary in 1996.

## CHANGE ON WEEK

### THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.32	2.15
Austria Sch	16.68	15.18
Belgium Fr	48.80	44.50
Canada \$	2.60	2.40
Cypriot Cyp	0.73	0.68
Denmark Kr	6.38	5.88
Finland Mk	7.44	6.79
France Fr	6.53	7.88
Germany Dr	2.38	2.17
Greece Dr	380.00	364.00
Hong Kong \$	13.14	12.14
Ireland Pt	1.04	0.98
Israel	5.2965	4.5985
Italy Lira	2045.00	2280.00
Japan Yen	149.50	139.50
Malta	0.608	0.547
Netherlands Gld	2.648	2.419
Norway Kr	10.82	9.82
Portugal Esc	247.00	228.50
S Africa Rd	6.42	5.82
Spain Pt	166.00	153.00
Sweden Kr	12.33	11.53
Switzerland Fr	1.97	1.79
Turkey Lira	refer	89429.0
USA \$	1.713	1.593

### STOCK MARKET

#### US dollar

1.6087 (+0.0015)

#### German mark

2.2241 (+0.0128)

#### Exchange index

84.6 (+0.1)

Bank of England official close (Apr)

#### FT 30 share

2448.7 (+12.8)

#### FT-SE 100

3216.7 (+16.8)

#### New York Dow Jones

4321.27 (+51.18)

#### Tokyo Nikkei Ave

18806.75 (-161.49)

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## Politics queers the sales pitch

On nearly all domestic fundamental arguments, the outlook for gilts appears especially good — better than many in the market can remember.

The key issue, as always, is inflation. The true "underlying" rate (ex-mortgage interest payments and indirect taxes) is running at less than 2 per cent. That is comparable with the best in Europe.

Clearly, there are some inflation pressures, mainly from the recent weakness of sterling. But various factors will limit the impact on final retail prices. Wages settlements have not reacted to higher growth and falling unemployment as they have in the past — the lack of the "feel-good factor" is not all bad. This may also be why retailers are finding it so difficult to make higher shop prices stick. In addition, the new monetary policy regime has made a difference, with early base rate rises clearly aimed at making the low inflation environment permanent.

Fiscal policy has also been turned around, with the contraction in government bor-

rowing one of the sharpest in Europe. The PSBR is on target to be about 3 per cent of GDP this financial year, making the UK one of the few EU countries on course to hit the Maastricht targets.

The result is that the glut of gilts is now winding down. The amount to be sold in each of the eight auctions to be held this year should be no more than £2 billion a throw.

Low inflation, together with sensible monetary and fiscal

political risk at the moment. Firstly, there is the question of what the Conservatives will do before they lose the next election and, secondly, what will the Labour Party do when it assumes power?

It can be argued that, on both counts, investors are overly cautious. Some reflection before the election is inevitable, but even a degree of reflection comparable, for example, with the "give-away" Budget of 1988 would still

remain so until proved wrong. Secondly, even those less cynical will not back UK assets if they assume that the views of the more sceptical majority will prevail. Being right can cost money if the market believes, albeit mistakenly, that you are wrong.

The upshot is that, in spite of the economic background and the view that political risk is overstated, interest in gilts is rather sparse — and not just from overseas investors. It is difficult to see this changing before April 1997, which is judged to be the most likely time for the general election.

The optimistic conclusion is that long-gilt yields will go no higher, given that politics has been fully reflected in current yields. The more pessimistic view is that as the day of political reckoning gets closer, investors will become ever more nervous about swings in fiscal policy. History has, unfortunately, made investors in gilts rather cynical.

JOHN SHEPPERD  
NIGEL RICHARDSON  
Yamaichi International  
(Europe)

### GILT-EDGED

leave PSBR below 3 per cent of GDP.

In terms of a Labour Government, the commitment to meeting the Maastricht criteria and, more importantly, the costs that markets can impose on profligate governments, could keep the new Government close to fiscal orthodoxy.

The problem with both of these arguments is, firstly, the force of history. Economic policy has often been politically determined in the UK and most will assume it will

### Answers from page 32

#### PENANG LAWYER

(a) A kind of walking-stick, made from the stem of a dwarf palm (*Licuala acutifolia*), a native of Penang and Singapore. In England often misapplied to the Malacca cane. Apparently with jocular reference to the use of the weapon in settling disputes in Penang, Sherlock Holmes: "His stick, which was a Penang lawyer weighted with lead."

#### BOX WALLAH

(b) A junior clerk, from the Hindi *walla* meaning a worker + box from the cupboard he worked in or the briefcase he carried. The term was sometimes used contemptuously or patronisingly for somebody who was probably better at writing and sums than the user. Also a pedlar. A competition wallah was more respectful, describing somebody who had passed into the Indian Civil Service by competitive examination.

#### CHOTA PEG

(c) A small drink, alcoholic, usually a whisky and soda, but in general any small drink. Chota means small in Hindi. Peg comes from the old-style cup with a peg or pin in it to show how much might be drunk.

#### KUKRI

(d) The famous curved knife of the Gurkhas, broader at the point than at the handle, and usually having the keen edge on the concave side, with which a Gurkha can remove your head without your noticing, from the Hindi *kuri*.

### SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qd8+! Kxd8 2 Kg7 3 Ne5+ 2 Kg7+ Kd8 3 g4h8Q with a winning rook for bishop material advantage.



Only a short while ago, the privatisation debate seemed to have fallen off the political agenda. The Government's medium-term financial plans showed that the Treasury was not expecting any more big asset sales. The most momentous and successful industrial policy of the past 15 years had largely run its course.

Sale of the Post Office, seemingly the last great potential money-spinner, was postponed indefinitely because the Cabinet could not pass it through Parliament. Market radicals had turned their attention elsewhere: to contract out Civil Service and local government functions not directly involved in making policy and to private finance of public investment projects.

The Opposition, meanwhile, had grudgingly accepted in hindsight that the state should not own industry. Pushing British Steel, British Airways and even British Aerospace into the competitive private sector has been fully justified by their much improved efficiency and financial performance.

Labour has never fully accepted that it is legitimate to make private profit out of essential public utilities (thank goodness bread was never nationalised). But a Labour government could not afford to buy the industries back at the much higher values established by their success in the private sector. Sequestering utility shares, or converting them forcibly into debt securities, would wreck people's pensions. European

## After Clause Four, back to that privatisation debate



rules are making it ever harder to justify state ownership of telecoms, gas, coal and even conventional power, if not water.

Saturday's vote to abandon the state industry model of Labour principles would, you might think, finally draw a line under the ideological issue that has cost Britain dear for 40 years by diverting attention from practical issues of industrial policy. Even Labour's recent orchestrated attacks on privatised utilities might be seen as pandering to the party's traditional anti-business prejudices while burying the policy reality.

Socialism is dead. Privatisation is done. Now, as suggested here last week, the country might usefully get on with a new agenda for helping British industry to take the lead in Europe. Sadly, this delightful prospect is not to be—at least, not ahead of the next general election. Instead, old battles are to be re-fought under new banners, to the embarrassment of both Government and Opposition.

The Prime Minister, the Chancellor, and the President of the Board of Trade are all still anxious to privatise the Post Office. The question is hardly likely to go unasked at

election time. They will surely have to put it in their manifesto or abandon the idea for another Parliament. It is easy enough to devise a new framework to achieve privatisation while meeting the worries of opponents on Government backbenches and beyond. A statutory monopoly with a detailed licence, strong regulation and limited equity stakes would fit the bill. But that would involve rejecting the competitive model enshrined in the current Gas Bill and in electricity regulation, which has later, and gratuitously, given utility privatisation a bad name. Free marketeers would hate it. Given the public suspicion

aroused by Mr Heseltine's poor original plan, ministers might well think it not worth the risk.

Meanwhile, Kenneth Clarke has insisted that new sales be brought forward to replace the Post Office and provide cash for tax cuts. Enter Railtrack, which had been earmarked for possible eventual sale, but not until the complex new railway structure had bedded down, and not until the next Parliament. The rail regulator, thinking ahead, therefore persuaded ministers to cut Railtrack's initial rate of return to give train operators a chance.

That change slashed Railtrack's potential sale value. Enter the nuclear power industry, previously thought unsaleable to investors and now likely to prove the most politically fraught of all.

Oddly, rail privatisation may embarrass Tony Blair's New Labour more than John Major. Rail users may be suspicious of what will happen to prices and services, but nothing terribly bad is likely to happen before the election. Rather, they are more likely to notice the refreshing initiative of private operators. The financial risks should only become apparent later. The

recent deterioration in service has been blamed on privatisation. It was really due to industrial action by signalmen as Railtrack acted, albeit a trifle hamfistedly, to improve efficiency. Service should recover—unless there are more damaging strikes, for instance, by train drivers. Unions seem bent on resistance, putting Labour on the defensive.

Once Railtrack has been sold, and the rest of the industry splintered, Labour will have to decide whether to renationalise part or all of the system. For a party that has just symbolically abandoned its old Clause Four, that will provide a nice manifesto dilemma, unless it can sabotage Railtrack's sale in advance.

Nuclear power is a different story. It has not been thought through, having largely been promoted by Nuclear Electric management to give its more efficient organisation a future when Government declines to finance new nuclear stations. Merging Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear will surely be the first pitfall. The Scots will hate it. The electricity regulator, dedicated to promoting competition, could surely not accept it, even with the carrot of an early end to the non-fossil fuel levy. Even worse, taxpayers will be left with liabilities to make a sale possible. If government accounting is done on the new model, the sale might scarcely yield anything for the Chancellor's tax cuts.

Tediously, these old battles are destined to hog the headlines and obscure tomorrow's debates.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Mucking out in the Square Mile

THE London cry used to be "bring out your dead". Today, the cry might well be "bring out your electronic muck". The Corporation of London, realising that City offices annually throw out 1,800 tonnes of electronic products, ranging from computer mainframes to burnt-out kettles, has commissioned a £15,000 feasibility study into providing an electronics recycling service. Two of the more bizarre items in the City's rubbish have been a dead shire horse, and a horse's head. The former was collected by arrangement with a brewery. The latter, I'm told, fell off an offal truck, and was picked up by a passer-by then dumped in a litter bin.

### Empire building

NOT everybody wants to leave the City for Canary Wharf after all. Fidelity, the world's largest private fund manager, which occupies 25-26 Lovat Lane, wants to build its own premises of up to 100,000 sq ft in the Square Mile. *Estates Gazette* reports. The London application is nothing compared with the US fund manager's Surrey headquarters, of 300,000 sq ft, or its US base, of 603,850 sq metres. But at least it's a start.

### Bishop's move

AT SG Warburg, the "Bishop of London" has retired. Barry Addison has manned the bank's reception desk for 26 years and has been known as "The Bishop" since the day he officiated at a mock "marriage" ceremony for a fellow messenger love struck over a Warburg secretary. Addison joined the bank on the day that Henry Grunfeld, co-founder of the merchant bank, retired. Grunfeld, who turns 91 on June 1, still comes into the office!

### City Action Man

RUMOURS abound that Hasbro, maker of Action Man, is to create a City type, complete with pinstripe and rolled umbrella. The reconstructed Hasbro range includes a scuba-diver, martial arts warrior and an unshaven adventurer. Bryan Ellis is the group's managing director. Whether the ideas come from his experience as an assistant station master at Newcastle Central is unknown.

COLIN CAMPBELL

## Attack helicopters line up in battle of Britain's industry

The UK must soon decide who will build its new battlefield attack helicopter, writes Ross Tieman



The Apache, Westland's candidate built in collaboration with McDonnell and already the MoD favourite

Like a fledgling trying its wings, Britain's only helicopter manufacturer is flustered nervously in the remorseless path of defence industry consolidation.

One more hefty slice of contracts would give Westland the muscle it needs to escape the hungry monster and join the predators in its own right. But should the Ministry of Defence's impending £2.6 billion order for attack helicopters go elsewhere, the chance to create a British champion in the new world order will be lost.

The simile might not find favour in Westland's home town of Yeovil, Somerset. But the thrust of this argument is going to be heard from Westland executives a good many times in the Ministry of Defence and the Department of Trade and Industry during the next three months.

For British industry, and for Westland, the stakes are enormous. The attack helicopter is the new raptor of the battlefield, howling through the trees at 150mph. Which will Britain choose? The Apache Longbow, the Cobra Venom or the Tiger? Each will have systems at the cutting edge of technology. The lessons learnt putting it into the sky will position the manufacturer as favourite to win any subsequent helicopter competition.

If Westland wins the contract to supply 91 aircraft, by the early years of the next century it could become the second biggest helicopter company in the West. If the contract goes to either of the rival bidders, GEC and British Aerospace, Britain's purchasing power will be divided between two British helicopter assemblers, each dependent on overseas partners.

Yet giving the contract to BAe would secure for Britain a new partnership with Eurocopter, the Franco-German group, and improve equipment commonality with French and German forces. Choosing GEC would help to retain that company's team of systems integration engineers and raise the prospect of upgrade work on 1,500 American machines around the world. And all that without considering the military capabilities of the rival machines.

In defence procurement, there are no easy choices. But this decision will be particularly hard because, in the absence of a home-grown contender,

each is offering a foreign-designed machine to be assembled in Britain. The MoD's choice, therefore, will be from a trio of Trojan horses, each with a different bellyful of knock-on effects for the British defence industry.

This is ironic, given that Britain declared its need for a fighting helicopter to destroy ground targets in 1982. Westland planned to offer the A129, developed by its Italian partner, Augusta. But it was declared too small and Westland teamed instead with McDonnell Douglas, of America, whose Apache was already the clear MoD favourite.

The Apache is a monster. Nine tonnes in weight with a missile load to keep a battalion at bay. Some 700 are in service with the US Army, and \$3 billion has been spent developing the latest D version.

Julian Browne, Westland's defence adviser, says 91 Apaches would cost about £1.4 billion apiece, plus £7 million each for maintenance and training facilities. Spares and upgrades would add £1.5 billion and £600 million would be needed for munitions.

Westland would ship in part-built Apaches from McDonnell, fit them with either American GE engines or the Anglo-French RTM 322, integrate their missile and control systems and arrange in-service support. The UK manufacturing content would be 40 per cent. But the rest would be offset, the company says, by an 11 per cent British content agreed on McDonnell's American Apache programme.

The second American contender is a new version of the Bell Helicopters Cobra called the Venom, offered by GEC, the electronics group. Based on an airframe and gearbox designed during the Vietnam war, GEC's Venom is the most British of all the contenders, incorporating a new British avionics package accounting for half the cost.

If GEC wins, the Venom's airframe will be shipped in kit form from Texas, together with its GE engines, for assembly at GEC-Marconi Avionics's Rochester site in Kent which

will build the cockpit. Or assembly will be done by Westland under contract. Although the players dispute every figure, they agree Venom is the cheapest option.

The European contender is the Tiger, from Eurocopter via BAe. France and Germany have told Britain they will buy 212 each. A British order would win BAe and its suppliers work equal to 20 per cent of the entire programme, and creation of an assembly line at Dunsfold, near Guildford, Surrey. Rolls-Royce already has 20 per cent of the engine.

Military capability, purchase and through-life costs will be important to the purchase decision. But ministers and officials know what else is at stake. According to a senior member of the GEC bid team it is "quite clear that the MoD is looking closely at the level and quality of British industrial participation".

The passing of the Cold War

has triggered an era of arms industry consolidation as countries seek to cut arms spending. Roger Freeman, the Defence Procurement Minister, is trying to use Britain's buying power to help UK manufacturers to secure their future within international collaborative programmes.

Westland already has a good workload. The MoD has ordered 44 naval versions of its EH101, and 22 transport versions for the Army. Mr Freeman may feel he should now back BAe, to get Britain into Eurocopter.

Mr Browne disagrees. Better, he says, to build on the MoD's immense investment in Westland. Buying Apache, just as American helicopter purchases are falling, would open the door to UK exports worth up to £5.5 billion.

GEC, with its half-share of the Venom, would hope to sell its electronics to upgrade 221 Cobras for the US Marines

and some 1,500 machines in service worldwide.

Buying Tiger would not make BAe a partner in Eurocopter, 75 per cent owned by Aerospatiale and 25 per cent by Daimler-Benz Aerospace. But it would give it 20 per cent of the programme. That would enable it to sell Tiger, the three-nation Trigat missile in which Britain has invested £185 million and support packages to other nations on its own account.

For Mr Freeman, busy weaving Britain into a web of European weapons projects, that may appeal. Tiger is agile, modern, and should be cheap to run. Yet the programme may be losing momentum. Although Germany has said it will buy 212, it has inherited Russian Hind attack helicopters from East Germany and has only budgeted to buy 75.

Even more damaging: the Dutch cabinet has just decided to buy Apache in preference to the Tiger. With Spain, the Nordic countries and others still to decide, the economic argument for a European solution is weakening.

And introducing GEC, a component supplier, into the helicopter business offers limited industrial benefits.

So Apache may yet offer the best platform to secure a strong helicopter industry for Britain. The nation has invested billions of pounds in developing Westland's capability and providing it with work since the last struggle to secure its future forced Michael Heseltine from the Cabinet nine years ago.

Mr Heseltine, at the DTI now instead of Defence, will once more have a say in the outcome. But desperation is no longer the order of the day. During the next three months, Westland and its parent, GKN, will have to explain exactly how they plan to exploit an Apache order to make Britain a world leader in helicopter design and manufacture. If they fail, Westland's revival, bought at such cost by the taxpayer, may gradually be eclipsed as programme leadership passes into other hands.



The Tiger, top, from BAe and Eurocopter and the Venom, GEC's version of Bell Helicopter's Cobra

## RADIO CHOICE

## Double grief of Superman

The Monday Play: Führer Hitler. Radio 4, 7.45pm.

The first half of Allan Prior's dramatisation of his biographical novel *Führer* ended on Saturday night with Corporal Hitler devastated by Germany's surrender in 1918, and quoting Nietzsche on Germany's need for a Superman. Part two begins as part one did. The ex-corporal is in his Berlin bunker, grieving once again over a beaten Fatherland, but this time looking back over events between 1921 and 1939. He is still quoting Nietzsche, although by now, he has assumed the role of Superman—the man of destiny to whom "nothing, nothing, nothing is forbidden". The concluding episode of *Führer* mixes documented fact with acceptable speculation, as part one did. From first to last, Michael Maloney's Hitler has been a tour de force.

Sinatra's Jazz. Radio 3, 4.30pm.

Presenting his series about Sinatra, Mel Hill has made things easier for himself by focusing on the singer's influence on jazz, and its influence on him. This means that Hill can plot the gradual perfecting of Sinatra's unique style when he sang with the Harry James and Tommy Dorsey bands. The voice of the 19-year-old Sinatra was subsumed within the group called The Hoboken Four. Four years later, as soloist, it was clear that the *bel canto* flowering had reached an advanced stage. Hill literally wanders up his programme on a high note—a false one, beautifully held by Sinatra singing *The Song is New*. Peter Daville

### RADIO 1

FM Stereo 4.00pm Early Breakfast Show 4.30pm Chris Evans 5.00pm Simon Mayo 5.30pm Wendy Lloyd 6.00pm Anytime 6.30pm News 6.45pm News 7.00pm News 7.15pm News 7.30pm News 7.45pm News 8.00pm News 8.15pm News 8.30pm News 8.45pm News 9.00pm News 9.15pm News 9.30pm News 9.45pm News 10.00pm News 10.15pm News 10.30pm News 10.45pm News 11.00pm News 11.15pm News 11.30pm News 11.45pm News 11.55pm News 12.00pm News 12.15pm News 12.30pm News 12.45pm News 1.00pm News 1.15pm News 1.30pm News 1.45pm News 1.55pm News 2.00pm News 2.15pm News 2.30pm News 2.45pm News 3.00pm News 3.15pm News 3.30pm News 3.45pm News 4.00pm News 4.15pm News 4.30pm News 4.45pm News 5.00pm News 5.15pm News 5.30pm News 5.45pm News 6.00pm News 6.15pm News 6.30pm News 6.45pm News 7.00pm News 7.15pm News 7.30pm News 7.45pm News 8.00pm News 8.15pm News 8.30pm News 8.45pm News 9.00pm News 9.15pm News 9.30pm News 9.45pm News 10.00pm News 10.15pm News 10.30pm News 10.45pm News 11.00pm News 11.15pm News 11.30pm News 11.45pm News 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# Some mothers don't have them, after all

A worrying moment in last night's *Prime Suspect* (ITV). Helen Mirren prowls alone, in the dark, at the scene of the crime, hoping to spot something she's missed. The case is a baby abduction, and Mirren is just rearranging fluffy toys in an empty cot when the phone rings. She answers, but the caller hangs up without speaking. Mirren puts down the receiver and bites her lip. And meanwhile the country yells. "Use the BT call-back facility! Haven't you seen the adverts? Dial 147!"

You have to admit it was an odd lapse. In the normal run of things Detective Superintendent Jane Tennison is so thorough, rapidly distributing those cover-all duties in the incident room, along the lines of, "I want cheese, I want pickle, and I want all known associates of the cheese going back ten years, house to house on the pickle, where did cheese and pickle

meet, check the statements again, what about Dairyella..." But the trouble is, Tennison knows nothing about BT adverts for sandwich fillings, either because her personal life has divided badly again. In fact, there is now nothing left. In the original *Prime Suspect*, she was a packet of crisps; she also smoked fags, drank in a pub and had sex with a live-in lover. Chocolate cake got smeared on her blouse. In *Prime Suspect 2*, she chewed Nicorettes and had sex with a colleague at an hotel. In *Prime Suspect 3*, she got joylessly pregnant by a married old flame. But now? Well, no crisps, cake, mini-bar, nothing. Nowadays Tennison's body is just something she uses to fill a grey, tailored suit. Lonesome and self-neglect were of course central to the theme of last night's story by Paul Billings, in which Tennison's grimly efficient abortion ("When can I get back to

work?") led straight to the case of the lost baby. The other women in the case — the mother, the prime suspect's girlfriend — kept explaining, "When you live on your own," and were always crucially interrupted, but in the end, the case was not about paedophile kidnaps, but about the strain of coping with children by yourself. This mother had killed her own baby. The truth finally revealed, Mirren went home and sat in the dark, in silence, on her own. And you know precisely what she was thinking.

Yes. Gone, gone, and never called me mother. The personal and the professional are always inter-mixed in these superior police stories. Last night Tennison felt sore, but it was also the turn of Big Tony Muddymann (Jack Ellis) to go haywire, stealing sensitive evidence, rigging statements and duffing up the paedophile prisoner on account of

## REVIEW



Lynne Truss

being an abused child himself. *Prime Suspect* must always contain a scene in which a gritty policeman breaks down (sliding down a wall with head in hands) while Tennison, horrified, comforts him. It is a sine qua non. There must also be a scene in which Tennison realises that her investigation has been scuppered by some cocky underling acting off his own bat.

As usual, the writing, directing and acting were superb, despite the general downgrading of the cast from the days of Tom Bell and Zoë Warrack. The guilt or innocence of the cornered prime suspect Chris (Robert Glenister) simply resolved itself in the viewer's mind as his plight grew worse. Holed up in a domestic siege with his girlfriend and her little girls, bleeding from the face and clutching his broken ribs, he yelled down the phone to Tennison, "Why is this happening?", and by then you understood his outrage.

Meanwhile, scenes changed to loud roars of traffic, or deafening hub-bub of phones. Shiny Rovers swung importantly into Southampton Row pursued by badly-dressed journalists holding tape-recorders to windows (as they do). The MI was a red herring, as it turned out, but at least Mirren got a trip to Derbyshire, to visit the child's absentee father in the dales.

"You don't approve of women who take their careers seriously?" Mirren asked him. "Not if it makes them selfish," he declared. Mm. Looking back, this may have been the key moment.

So much for *Prime Suspect*, which worked surprisingly well in the two-hour format. Other than that, it was a so-so weekend. *Hilfer's Death: The Final Report* (BBC1) last night promoted the cook-up theory of history — suggesting that the official Soviet hush surrounding the removal of Hitler's corpse from the Berlin bunker had more to do with incompetence than anything more sophisticated, such as disinformation. Transporting the charred remains of Hitler and Eva Braun, Stomach agents buried them nightly in woods, and woke one morning to find that another Russian unit had dug them up. If only the full details of this opera-

tion had been available earlier. Perry and Croft could have written a sit-com about it.

Not that the stupidity of blokes in uniforms is always funny, but allow me to recommend Father Ted on Channel 4, which is packed with dim clergy jokes yet is somehow fresh and hilarious. This new Friday night series about three Irish priests on a remote island has much to commend it, not least the authentically disheartening decor of the house, and the tackiness of the religious icons. The wallpaper alone deserves an award. But the main thing is the friendship between the eponymous Ted (Dermot Morgan) and his cheerfully fist-headed sidekick Father Dougal (Ardal O'Hanlon). "Who'd have thought that being hit by lightning could land you in hospital!" mused Dougal on Friday. And you knew at once that he'd been hit all his life, and never felt the worse.

## BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast (75848)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (10296197)
- 9.00 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (1564623)
- 10.00 News (Ceeba), regional news and weather (7468130) (10.05 Eastenders — The Early Days (t) (Ceeba) (1610082)
- 10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (4314825)
- 12.00 News (Ceeba), regional news and weather (9188994) (12.05 Pebble MIM. A week of shows commencing on Tuesday. Today, Alan Titchmarsh returns with Dame Vera Lynn (s) (6266791)
- 12.50 Regional News and weather (1500246)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceeba) and weather (82246) (1.30 Newsnight. (Ceeba) (s) (93452492)
- 1.50 Going for Gold. General knowledge quiz with European contestants. The question-master is the depper Henry Kelly (s) (8387028) 2.15 Knots Landing. American drama (s) (8779371) 3.05 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pepin prepares a savoury meringue (s) (8524082)
- 3.30 Cartoon (5410482) 3.45 Fievel's American Tails (t) (s) (1452333) 4.05 Peter Pan and the Pirates (t) (Ceeba) (s) (3343155) 4.30 The Movie Game. (Ceeba) (s) (1226604) 4.55 Newsround (7503555) 5.05 Blue Peter. Includes a visit to the Imperial War Museum. (Ceeba) (s) (1988284)
- 5.35 Neighbours (t) (Ceeba) (s) (424772)
- 5.50 Six O'Clock News (Ceeba) and weather (85)
- 6.30 Regional news magazines (17)
- 7.00 That's Showbusiness. Entertainment quiz chaired by Mike Smith. The guests include Shou Kapoor, Nigel Havers and Keith Barron. (Ceeba) (s) (8710)
- 7.30 Watchdog. A summer special edition of the consumer affairs series. (Ceeba) (s) (71)
- 8.00 Eastenders. (Ceeba) (s) (4130)



Nicholas Lyndhurst, Victor McGuire (8.30pm)

- 8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart. Last in the comedy series starring Nicholas Lyndhurst. (Ceeba) (s) (3265)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceeba), regional news and weather (4975)
- 9.30 Party Election Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats. (Ceeba) (s) (853771)
- 9.35 Panorama. Topical investigations. (Ceeba) (218488)
- 10.15 FILM: Married for Murder (1991) starring Arliss Howard and Treat Williams. Thriller about a man who kills his lover's husband for the insurance money and then looks for a wife in order to do the same. Directed by Yves Simoneau. (Ceeba) (253082)
- 11.50 Film 95 with Barry Norman. Among the films reviewed are *ID, Little Odessa, The Steel and Cries*. (Ceeba) (s) (229158)
- 12.00am FILM: Brothers in Arms (1990) starring Richard Gere and Patrick Swayze. Thriller about an Arab in the French secret services who learned up with a Jewish vice squad policeman in order to smash a terrorist drug ring. Directed by Alexander Arcady (s) (647821) 2.00 Weather (2430837)

## BBC2

- 6.30 Open University: Oceanography — Jamaica and the Sea (7494826) 6.45 Women, Children and Work (8045826) 7.35 Languages for Learning (181555)
- 8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceeba and signing) (742082)
- 8.15 Westminster On-Line with Sarah Bander (s) (333884)
- 9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, 10.00-10.25 Playdays (1638468) 1.45 Words and Pictures. (8578081) 2.00 Noddy (8546517)
- 2.15 FILM: Mirrors (1989) starring Timothy Daly and Margaret Hickox. A talented young dancer from the Midwest arrives in New York and wins a chorus line job. Her boyfriend arrives on the scene and is uneasy with her new friends. Soon she is leaving to choose between romance and her career. Directed by Harry Winer. Includes News, regional news and weather at 3.00 (670772) 3.55 News (Ceeba), regional news and weather (335081)
- 4.00 Today's Day. Recent history clip (s) (30)
- 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Innovative recipes (2)
- 5.00 Esther. Studio discussion series chaired by Esther Rantzen (s) (3888)
- 5.30 Catchword. Paul Cole's word game show (s) (94)
- 6.00 FILM: In Which We Serve (1942, b/w) starring Noel Coward, John Mills and Bernard Miles. Second World War drama about the exploits and heroics of the crew of a Royal Navy ship. Directed by David Lean and Noel Coward. (Ceeba) (63774538)
- 7.50 The Enemy Within. (Ceeba) (s) (242791)
- 8.10 The Talking Cure. Shereaz Pakravan examines face-to-face therapy which, it is claimed, helps to cure mental illness, from stress to depression. (Ceeba) (s) (757130)



Martin Kemp, Charles Martin Smith (9.00pm)

- 9.00 Outer Limits: Blood Brothers. (Ceeba) (s) (424710)
- 9.45 Minders: Acute Face. The third of a six-part series based on the casebook of a south London community psychiatric team. (Ceeba) (s) (204130)
- 10.30 Party Election Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats. (Ceeba) (s) (853888)
- 10.35 Newsnight. (Ceeba) (509517)
- 11.20 Prose Poetry (s) (470791)
- 12.00 Weather (8434111)
- 12.05am Psychology in Action. The work of a senior psychologist at Hull prison (868503)
- 12.30 Design Principles and Practice (8368314)
- 1.20 The Reverend. The day in Parliament presented by Sally Hardcastle (s) (2488579). Ends at 1.50

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode. The number next to each TV programme listing is a Video PlusCode. This allows you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ remote control. For more information on the Video PlusCode system, please see the Video PlusCode card in the programme guide. For more details on the Video PlusCode system, please see the Video PlusCode card in the programme guide. For more details on the Video PlusCode system, please see the Video PlusCode card in the programme guide.

## CHOICE

**Outer Limits**  
BBC2, 9.00pm  
They still control the horizontal. And the phials of unidentified substances, which are looking threatening in the lab. But there the similarity with the original *Outer Limits*. For a start, we can now witness the soft-gripping action in full colour. The stories are peppered with up-to-date talk of science and computer chips, which means they inevitably lose the litch of 1960s science-fiction. But they are good-looking and watchable. In the opener, two warring brothers (played by Martin Kemp and Charles Martin Smith) struggle for the control of their father's pharmaceutical company. When one brother discovers a wonder drug (in *Outer Limits* speak, that is a genetically altered retro virus) the other is worried it will render the entire industry obsolete. Cue shenanigans, and not a flying saucer in sight.



Trouble on Britain's motorways (C4, 9.30pm)

**Undercover Britain: Running Bent**  
Channel 4, 9.30pm  
More than 90 per cent of dangerous toxic chemicals are transported by road, and serious accidents are becoming more frequent as large companies contract out transport to middlemen. They operate a hire and reward system which is creating pressure on drivers, who often have to run fast to fulfil a contract. Tonight, Graham Hall hits the road to discover the tricks of the trade. He meets John Challis, whose son was killed by a lorry carrying organic acid. The accident was dealt with by two ambulances and three fire crews. It later transpired that the lorry driver had been moonlighting, and just completed a long shift at a local factory. Equipped with surveillance cameras, Hall uncovers a world of untrained drivers, fixed tachographs and deficient vehicles, where profit always wins over safety.

**States of Mind: The Enemy Within**  
BBC2, 7.50pm  
Actor and businessman Adam Faith talks about 20 years he lost as a result of a car accident in the series in which celebrities talk to Professor Anthony Clare about their past mental problems. Although he made a total physical recovery from the accident, Faith experienced post-traumatic stress, which left him with anxiety so severe that he stopped acting. No one suggested he sought help; something he now puts down to typical British reserve. "I think it took me ten years to actually reach the top of the hill," says Faith, "and another ten years to get back to where I was before the accident. It's taken 20 years out of my life."

**Prozac Diary**  
BBC2, 11.20pm  
How correct is the Freudian theory that artists create because they are emotionally disturbed? Continuing the *States of Mind* series, screened to mark Mental Health Week at the end of April, is this investigation into the Muse, film-maker and clinical psychologist Oliver James follows four artists — novelists Michael Brannwell and Alice Thomas Ellis, poet Alan Jenkins (1982) (800000) 1.20 The States of Mind series, screened to mark Mental Health Week at the end of April, is this investigation into the Muse, film-maker and clinical psychologist Oliver James follows four artists — novelists Michael Brannwell and Alice Thomas Ellis, poet Alan Jenkins (1982) (800000) 1.20 The States of Mind series, screened to mark Mental Health Week at the end of April, is this investigation into the Muse, film-maker and clinical psychologist Oliver James follows four artists — novelists Michael Brannwell and Alice Thomas Ellis, poet Alan Jenkins (1982) (800000) 1.20 The States of Mind series, screened to mark Mental Health Week at the end of April, is this investigation into the Muse, film-maker 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# Union may sue firms over cash for Tories

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

COMPANIES that give money to the Conservative Party face the prospect of a legal challenge to their donations from a key trade union.

The expected move by GMB, the general union, could pose a serious threat to business's political donations and to the Conservative Party's finances. Companies that will be examined by the union include Hanson and Taylor Woodrow. John Edmonds, the general secretary of GMB, signalled the move yesterday after the Labour Party's weekend conference on changing Clause Four.

Conservative leaders, including Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of

Trade, attacked Labour because of what they said was the union's extensive influence over the party.

Jeremy Hanley, the chairman of the Conservative Party, insisted yesterday that the bulk of the party's funding came from money raised by members, rather than corporate donations.

But Mr Edmonds said: "Our latest legal opinion is that these company donations may be unlawful."

On the basis of its advice, Mr Edmonds said that the union would now be examining a range of companies' articles to consider their legality and to find a number against which they can bring test cases over their political

funding. After studying legal opinion drafted for it by the University of Bristol, the union believes it can bring an action that donations to the Conservative Party are ultra vires for companies on two potential grounds:

□ Successful companies for whose business the Conservative Party has no particular policies. While a company involved in, say, providing personal pensions, might well be entitled by its articles to make donations to a political party such as the Conservatives, which have put in practice policies designed to increase the take-up of personal pensions, the union believes a company such as a supermarket chain might not be able to make donations because the Tories have no particular policy to promote supermarkets.

□ Companies in industries that have recently been unsuccessful, but which still make donations to Conservative funds. GMB officials believe that such donations may be ultra vires since the Government's economic policies may have directly contributed to the companies' lack of success. The union thinks, for instance, that a number of construction companies fall into this category.

Part of the union's legal advice rests on a case brought in 1983 against the League Against Cruel Sports, whose donation to the Labour Party was ruled to be unlawful because although Labour at that time was broadly anti-hunting, it had then no specific policy against bloodsports.

Companies might draw satisfaction from the fact that the union did not eventually take legal action as it had threatened against the Government's opt-out from the social chapter of the Treaty of Maastricht.

But GMB officials emphasise that the union has successfully brought a number of important legal test cases on such issues as equal pay for equal value and is vigorous in pursuing action through the courts where appropriate.



Riggers Colin Raby, left, and Vincent Rivenell install some of the 4,000 ft of red, white and blue tubular lighting on London's BT Tower in preparation for the VE Day celebrations. The tower lights will be switched on by the Queen at 9pm on Bank Holiday Monday, May 8.

## ING to purge 20 Barings executives

By Eric Reguly

FAILURE to supervise the trading operations of Nick Leeson, the Baring Brothers futures trader whose high-risk bets brought down the bank in February, will cost about 20 Barings executives their jobs today.

ING, the Dutch financial services group that now controls Barings, will dismiss executives along the chain of command in London and Singapore, where Mr Leeson was based. It wants to clear the decks before its annual meeting on Wednesday in Amsterdam.

Mr Leeson's ultimate boss, Peter Norris, chief executive of Barings Securities, will be the most prominent dismissal. Mr Norris, who ran Barings' Hong Kong operations before tak-

ing the top securities job in 1993, has been shut out of management decisions since the bank's collapse. He was said to be on holiday yesterday.

Other departures are said to include Ron Baker and Mary Walz, who were directly responsible for Mr Leeson, and James Bax, a director in Singapore. Anthony Hawes, the former group treasurer, Ian Hopkins, a director of group treasury, and George Maclean, head of banking, also are thought to be on the list.

Contrary to press reports, Richard Katz, head of equity trading, will probably escape the purge.

Peter Baring, chairman, and Andrew Tuckey, deputy chairman, have resigned already.

## Rising food prices signal rate increase

By Colin Narbrough

FOOD prices rose in the first quarter for the first time in two-and-a-half years, according to an authoritative survey whose findings could increase the pressure on Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, to raise interest rates.

Mr Clarke and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, are widely expected in the City to sanction a half-point increase in base rates when they meet for their monthly monetary policy session on Friday.

The food price survey, published today by Verdict Research, shows that a basket of 40 core items tracked every quarter since September 1992 revealed what appears to be a fundamental shift of direction in the first quarter this year.

During the three-month period, Verdict found that the discount stores raised their prices by 0.9 per cent, while the supermarkets nudged their prices up by 0.1 per cent. Since

the survey started in 1992, food prices at discount stores had fallen steadily until this year, dropping an overall 12 per cent, while mainstream supermarkets lowered their prices by 18 per cent in retaliation.

The survey indicates how vigorous the fightback by the supermarkets has been in their price war with the discounters. Special offers, cheaper product ranges and more competitively positioned goods have narrowed the price gap between the discounters and supermarkets to just 4 per cent in the first quarter this year, from 12 per cent in September 1992.

Verdict comments that the price increases registered in the first quarter might seem small, but represented the first of its quarterly surveys to show any price inflation across its basket of food items.

Coffee was responsible for the most spectacular price increases over the past year,

rising 35 per cent on average. Sugar has gone up 14 per cent during the same period.

Verdict still sees the outlook for shoppers remaining positive, in spite of the sharp price increases, driven by crop failures, for products such as coffee and sugar.

"The general (price) trend beyond these products continues to be downward," the survey says.

The survey says that the first-quarter food price increases arose from a "lull in the fighting" between the discounters and supermarkets, which it expects to be rejoined as discounters seek to take advantage of the floor space they are adding.

City economists remain concerned, however, that the weaker pound will inevitably feed through into higher prices for food and other goods, especially on items imported from continental Europe.

## Sharelink set for float bonanza

By Carl Mortished

SHARELINK, the execution-only dealing service that has received a takeover bid from Charles Schwab, the American discount broker, could be heading for a potential profits bonanza from future privatisations and the flotation of the merged Halifax and Leeds building societies.

ShareLink investors, who are being offered 235p-per-share by Schwab, will miss out on the benefits of the £9 billion Halifax float, which is scheduled for 1997, if the bid succeeds. ShareLink currently provides a share dealing service for Halifax's 13 million customers and is hoping to secure a large chunk of the surge of business when the merged Halifax/Leeds is launched on the market.

Substantial ShareLink investors, such as GT Management, with 10 per cent, fear that the price offered by Schwab, a 15p discount to ShareLink's flotation price only two years ago, does not

reflect the potential of the business which has 600,000 customers and has, in the past, enjoyed a surge of business from big flotations.

The £4 billion sale of the National Grid, scheduled for this autumn, should provide a boost to execution-only dealing services, such as ShareLink, with millions of private shareholders in the regional electricity companies receiving free shares.

More important, in the longer term, will be the sale of the Halifax. A Halifax spokesman said that more than 10 million members could receive free shares. "We do have a dedicated relationship with ShareLink," he explained. "It's been with us for the past couple of years. There is no plan not to have that in place."

The Schwab bid for ShareLink comes after a poor period for the group in which profits collapsed from £6 million to forecasts of breakeven in the year to March.

## Bank of England job fears

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

THE Bank of England is considering the closure of its five regional branches, threatening the jobs of 266 staff.

An internal working party started a review of the branches at the end of last year, under Rupert Pennant-Rea, the deputy governor who resigned last month. The review has continued under the direction of Roy Lecky-Thompson, the new head of personnel brought in by Mr Pennant-Rea last December.

The working party is examining whether the cash distribution and regional economic

intelligence roles the branches perform can be more cost-effectively carried out in other ways. It is due to decide if it will close some or all of the branches in two weeks, when the Bank's court of directors meets to discuss the options.

A Bank of England spokesman said: "We do review the functions of the branches every few years. A review of the branches has been going on."

The Bank employs 50 in its Leeds branch, 50 in Newcastle, 70 in Manchester, 56 in Birmingham and 40 in Bristol. The branches have been in

place since the 1820s, carrying out some cheque clearing, distribution and re-sorting of bank notes and regional economic surveillance.

The review has caused MPs to become concerned. Tom Arnold, Conservative MP for Hazel Grove, Greater Manchester, and chairman of the all-party Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee, is believed to be concerned. Jean Corston, Labour MP for Bristol East, has also begun to ask questions about the future of the branches.

Jim Lowe, assistant sec-

tary at Bifa, the banking and finance union, said: "We are very concerned because we believe this is the Bank of England, not the Bank of London or the Bank of the City. The branches play an important role in the regional economies."

The Bank of England's review comes soon after the Bundesbank, the German central bank, cut its network of small branches. It is cutting 1,200 jobs from its branches over the next ten years, taking its branch network down from 180 to 120.

## Stein is back with the St James's Club

By Neil Bennett

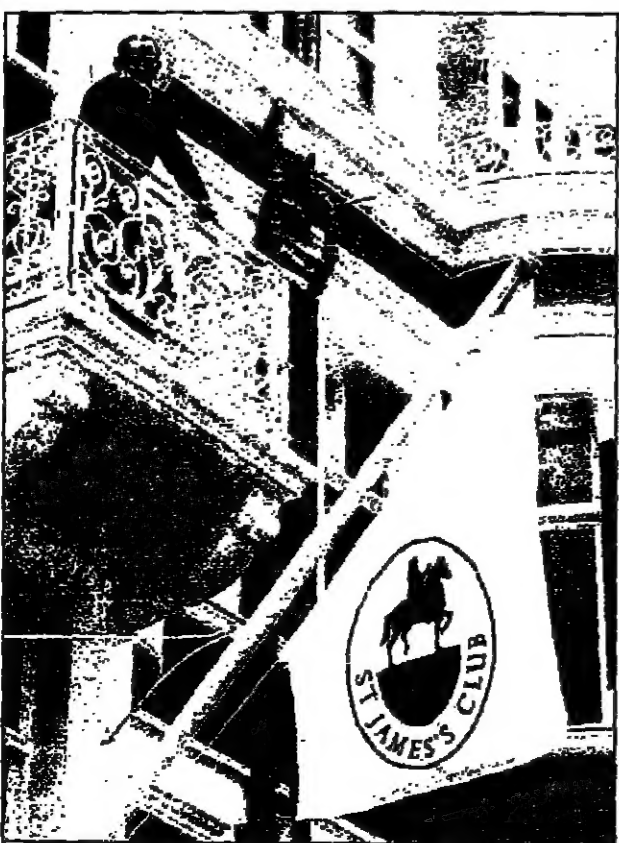
CYRIL Stein, the founder and former chairman of Ladbrokes, is back in business. Today he reopens the St James's Club in London, which he bought from Queens Moat Houses last year, after a £4 million refurbishment.

The club, near Buckingham Palace, has been completely overhauled and is intended to be one of the most sumptuous places to stay in central London. Mr Stein bought the club, mainly from his own savings, for £6 million. Part of the deal was financed by Mr Stein's friends, one of whom has taken a 20 per cent stake.

The club was built in 1892, originally for ladies. It was bought by Norfolk Capital, the hotel group, for £17.5 million in the late Eighties, before Norfolk was acquired

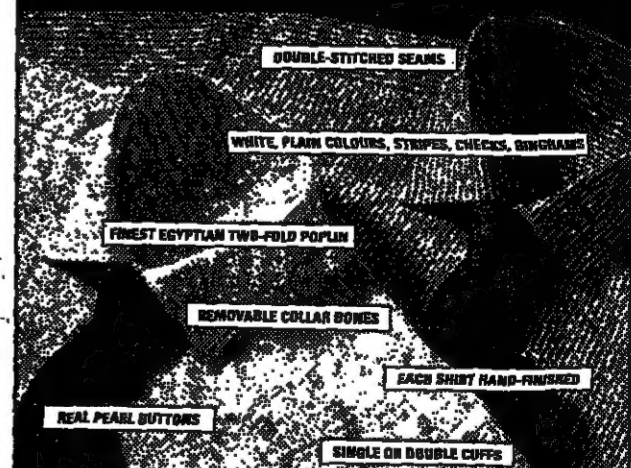
by Queens Moat. Mr Stein has completely refurbished the interior, creating 60 bedrooms and suites. He aims to compete with the new crop of five-star hotels, such as the Lanesborough. The price of membership remains at its previous price of £300 a year.

Mr Stein was overseeing last-minute preparations at the club yesterday. He said: "We have taken the place to pieces and put it back together again. We have brought the exterior back to its original beauty and equipped the rooms ready for the 21st century." As well as being chairman of the holding company, Mr Stein has become chairman of the executive committee, which decides who is allowed membership. There is also an honorary committee, which is chaired by Sir John Mills.



Cyril Stein has completely refurbished the club

## Liquidation Sale (last few weeks)



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## PRICE PLEDGE

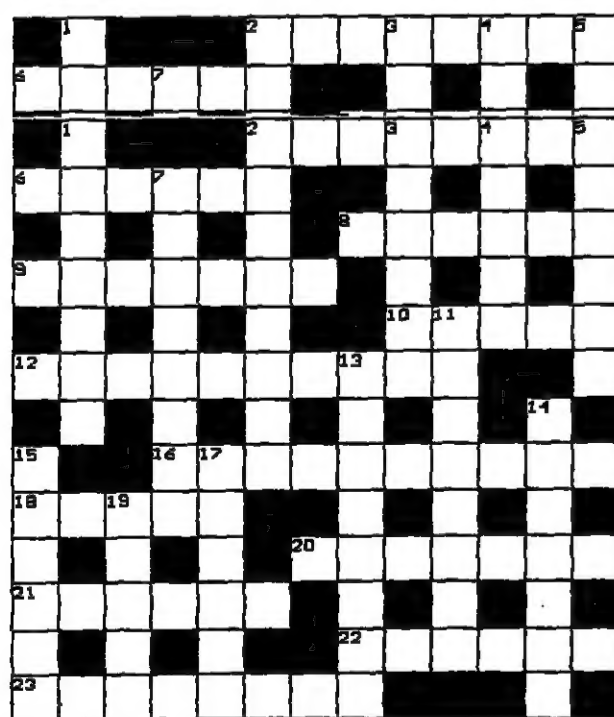
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SAVE 25%  
12 of the best! Let us choose the colours and you pay only £19.95 per shirt.

## TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 459

### ACROSS

- 2 Fashion industry (3,5)
- 3 Busy, energetic (6)
- 4 OT child-sacrifice deity (6)
- 5 Shelf support (7)
- 10 Sacred song (5)
- 12 Complete success, purge (5,5)
- 16 Stimulated; covered in zinc (10)
- 18 Rage (5)
- 20 Breach (7)
- 21 Petrifying Greek monster (6)
- 22 Scale of charges; import duty (6)
- 23 Timetable; appendix (8)

### DOWN

- 1 In a frightening way (7)
- 2 Switch of direction (8)
- 3 Band of entertainers (6)
- 4 Scent (5)
- 5 Disinter (6)
- 7 Having command (2,6)
- 11 Short-distance runner (8)
- 13 Weigh up (8)
- 14 Detach; run madly away (4,3)
- 15 Scottish sheep-offal dish (6)
- 17 Matthew - a Bennett, writers (6)
- 19 Bulk; circumference (5)

### SOLUTION TO NO 458

- ACROSS: 1 Swan-upping 9 Waive 10 Yarn  
11 Migraine 13 Irony 14 Organ 16 John Bull 17 Snip  
20 Canal 21 Promote 22 Scientists  
DOWN: 1 Sepoy 2 All-or-nothing 3 Up to 4 Picnic 5 New  
broom 6 Disingenuous 7 Demean 12 Symbolic 13 Inject  
15 Elapse 18 Fleets 19 Font

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